Why is everyone staying at home?

A children’s book on the pandemic
It's a really nice day.
But something is different...

Kim looks out the window.
The children’s playground is empty and the people on the street wear a funny mask over their mouths.

Max’s mom across the street has been sick for a while, so he doesn’t come outside to play.

The school playground at the end of the street is also empty and it is very quiet.
Kim's mom explains that there is a new kind of virus. That's why people are a little more careful now. Especially when they go out.

Viruses are so small that you can't see them - much smaller than grains of sand! That's why we usually don't notice them.

Even though they are so small, we sometimes get sick from them. This can happen by accident - like getting sand in your shoe.
It is better to cough into your elbow. Then the viruses will not spread in the air and other people will not breathe them in - and no one will get sick.

A mask in front of the mouth and nose also helps to avoid spreading the virus.

If you sneeze or cough, the viruses spread through the air.

Other people nearby can breathe them in, causing the viruses to spread.
That means shaking hands or hugging is not possible.

That is of course a shame, because if you are happy to see someone, you want to hug them...

To be on the safe side, keep a little more distance from each other than usual. Then the viruses won’t reach you!

But it’s also fun to think of funny new greetings!
Kim thinks: You can keep a good distance from other people on the street. But what do you do inside?

It's a good thing that the kindergarten is closed at the moment. With so many children and adults together in a small room... it would be really difficult to keep your distance from them!
That is why the swimming pool is closed as well.

And the cinema.

And the zoo.

These are all places where a lot of people usually come together. Fortunately, the supermarket is still open.
Kim’s mum can buy all the ingredients for a delicious pudding at the supermarket. Kim pretends the supermarket aisles are a maze. How does Kim get to the pudding aisle and then to the checkout without bumping into other customers?
Back home, they both wash their hands first.

The soap washes away all viruses.

Kim sings a song, it's more fun!

Wet hands...

wet hands...
Mum and Kim can cook something delicious with clean hands.

That’s also fun when you’re bored!

And pudding always tastes good!
Kim is tired and goes to bed. Her mum reads her a story so that Kim can sleep soundly.

Sleep well, Kim!
Why is everyone staying at home?
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