

# COVID-19

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COVID-19 is a virus that travelled worldwide in a short amount of time. It was life threatening, and we didn't know what it was... until we realised what it did. People went frantic, it was the headline for all of the TV news, and it was scary. People stopped watching the news sometimes, it was too scary, it made people feel alone, and worst of all, the media could exaggerate, making people feel worse. It was always the same. There were programs on TV that focused on COVID -19, despite them not being the news. It started in China, where they went into isolation, and then followed by the rest of the world. Face masks were in extremely high demand, and this deadly virus travelled by contact; shaking hands, hugging, etc., it all spread that quick. Australia thought nothing of it, until it spread in just about 4 weeks.

COVID-19 was not the best time for any of us. It was an isolated and scary few months for everyone. Western Australia, where I live, was not as badly infected as most, but one hundred died. The town I live in didn't get any cases, but the city next to us got several, luckily not spreading much.

COVID-19 started with many rumours, but the first belief was that it started by a man eating bats in China, as it is extremely contagious. Another one was that China started it purposefully in a lab so one scientist took it and allowed it to spread. There were many more rumours though.

China was obviously where it started, and they went into isolation months before some countries, and then Australia's streets became close to abandoned, for weeks, and stretched into months.

COVID-19 affected many people for a couple of reasons; it was deadly to old people, and was a danger to the weak. We were forced to stay at home unless for essential reasons including exercise and doctor appointments. We would have to talk to all of our friends and family through technology. It changed our life to a more boring one. But I know it made more people realise what we actually have in our usual life, which many people already call it the Great Realisation, which is a nice, yet truthful name. What it did do though, was let us get things done at home, which was an advantage for lots of people. It would have made many people sad and scared, but at the point the world is in, it'll get better.

I wasn't too scared, but I was certainly frustrated, bored from time to time, and felt isolated when I couldn't see anyone.

I live on a farm, so I was not stuck indoors for all of the six weeks we were in isolation, so I could get outside and enjoy everything around me. I am a competitive showjumper, as well as many other things, such as bike riding and study, which I did around three to four hours a day in total, because compared to school, that would be about the total amount of work I would do in a day.

All the things around me changed rapidly, to a completely different lifestyle, the supermarket carparks became limited, the news remained focused on COVID-19, the streets close to abandoned, people running into supermarkets for things they wanted, which would often turn into chaos, and the main thing was that everyone was social distancing at one point five metres carefully.

The things that affected me the most, though, would have had to be things like, no weekend sports, which is still not on, but training just started a few days ago. There was also no school, which I love, and having to learn online, which was certainly not fun, and extremely boring. Although, not everything changed completely, I still had a family, food on the table, and a warm bed, and I am extremely grateful for that.

With everything that has happened, Australia's economy is collapsing, and people's rent has gotten worse, because of them not being able to get out of the house to work, which means they quite quickly lose money. Some people kept their job, because it was essential work, though, and people still have their doubts, of when it will go, if it will go, and if it will spark back up again with us taking off restrictions. I believe it will all become just fine, and we need to look at the positives!