

12 Teens On Being Stuck At Home Because Of The Coronavirus

The spread of the coronavirus has turned life upside down, almost overnight, for millions of people around the world. Being a teenager is complicated even without a global pandemic in the mix, and we wanted to know what it feels like to be a teen at this particular moment in time — navigating a new reality of remote schoolwork, lots of family time, and a ton of uncertainty about what happens next. These teens responded to a request on Facebook to submit their stories of what life at home has been like for them so far. Here's what they had to say.

Natalie Radu — 17, Manalapan, New Jersey

The whole thing's been a false utopia. First day was really hype. A nasty chem test swerved! My Google calendar loaded with self-care and projects I'd been putting off for months because of schoolwork. I spent my waking hours with my cats. My skin cleared up. I literally said the words "I am so happy!" for the first time in years, just because I couldn't contain such genuine emotion. My siblings and parents started working from home that afternoon. We didn't butt heads at first — the constant presence of our beloved cats had put us all at ease — but it was inevitable.

Technical difficulties with online school had the 9-year-old howling from downstairs. I took my first day of online school pretty seriously, but by day two, my focus had waned. I deleted TikTok and Snapchat to try to keep the ball rolling with my projects, but my enthusiasm is fading. Most of my projects were for competitions that are probably gonna get canceled. My friends feel far away. But I had to actually exercise for gym — and provide a screenshot proving I went for a run — so that's pretty cool. The world kinda feels like it's quietly on fire.

