

Brigitte Meehan
April 18th, 2021
REL 101

COVID -19

This past year has been one of the most tough years of my life. When COVID -19 first became noticeable in the daily media no one would have imagined that it would skyrocket to a death toll of over 3 million people worldwide as of yesterday, April 17th 2021. It has been a tough year for myself and for my 6-year-old son Dash. To view a worldwide pandemic through the eyes of a young child is something I thought I would never have to do in my lifetime.

Turning 5 years old should be an exciting accomplishment, a time to celebrate his birthday and have a party with friends and family. However, this was not the case for my son's 5th birthday. His birthday is April 7th, and a mandated quarantine had been put in place for our town right before his birthday, meaning no party, no friends and no family over. Having to explain that we had to cancel his birthday party was one of the hardest things I had to do. Fast forward to September, when my son is about to start kindergarten. His school sends out an email stating that he will be attending virtual kindergarten until further notice. Having to make my son sit in front of a computer and see he classmates over zoom, yet they weren't allowed to see each other in person or play at recess was extremely hard. My son was not a fan of virtual kindergarten and would do everything he could think of to try and get out of it every day. During this time, we did a lot of construction classes making box forts and castles and attending science class to make foamy slimes, yet it was not the same thing as being in a classroom with your friends and learning new things each day. Sense March his class has finally gone back to school in person, yet they have to wear masks all day, stay 6 feet apart from each other and stay home if they are sick.

I can only imagine what goes threw kids minds while the world is going through a mass pandemic like COVID-19. I am so proud of how my son as taken in the news regarding what COVID -19 is and what precautions we have to take. He wants to have a big bon fire and throw all of his masks in their when the mask mandate is lifted. If COVID – 19 has taught us anything, it has taught us to be kind to others, appreciate everything that has been given to us and never take anything for granted.