



**AGE 5-8 WINNING ENTRY**  
**INVASION OF THE BATS**  
**BY MITCHELL G. AGE 8**



One night when I was lying in bed there was a huge light that I could see through the crack in my curtains. As quietly as I could I tiptoed over to the window and peeped outside. I couldn't believe my eyes; it was a spaceship! I wanted to find out more information about this weird spaceship. I put on a jacket and quietly went to unlock the front door, so I didn't wake everyone up.

I snuck outside. I went to the back of the spaceship being careful not to be seen. I stayed there for hours and at 2am, in the darkness, I was eager to get closer. I saw aliens with cages of bats and there were hundreds of them. The aliens started coming out of the spaceship and were glowing red and blue. Their big yellow eyes were shining like headlights out into the street. I was so freaked out that I froze and couldn't move. They started to release the bats into the night sky and the bats smothered the houses in our street. The aliens got back into their spaceship and took off.

Soon it was all over the news around the world. A day later, hundreds of people were in hospital with a strange illness called COVID-19. It was spread to humans by the bats. It was time for me to act with head gear, full-body armour and a gun to destroy all the bats.

Long after the bats were gone, everyone was affected by COVID-19. Today it makes me feel upset because I can't play football and can't go to school to see my friends. The world is different and when I look through the crack in my curtains trying to go to sleep at night I wonder if things will ever be the same again.

AGE 5-8 SHORTLISTED ENTRY

**I WISH COVID WASN'T AROUND**  
**BY BELLA A. AGE 7**



'I wish Covid wasn't around'

So many changes since Covid. I can't see my friends. My mum was home-schooling me and it was frustrating. We had to do Zoom lots and lots of times, but I liked seeing my friends and my teacher.

"I wish Covid wasn't around"

The Government change the rules every day. They make us wear masks and make us stay home. They make us home school, temperature checks, identification checks and more. What I really don't like is using the hand sanitiser, it feels yuck and smells.

"I wish Covid wasn't around"

I wish the old days were back. When I could run around outside and play with my friends and have sleep-overs and do whatever I want like playing at school. I don't like seeing my Mum and Dad wearing masks.

"I wish Covid wasn't around"

AGE 5-8 SHORTLISTED ENTRY



# THEN AND NOW

## BY CHARLOTTE W. AGE 5



My world has changed from Summer to Autumn and Autumn to Winter. In May, which is in Autumn, there's 31 days. And in June, which is in Winter, there is 30 days.

At home I had a real kitchen for my Mum and Dad, and then I had a toy kitchen which I can bake stuff pretendly. My little brother, Emmett, moved into a big boy bed and he had the rocking chair but now he has big hand chair, which is the colour blue.

I was 4 years old and now I'm 5. My birthday was the 16th of June, and some of the people that I know came to my birthday party. A long time ago I didn't have my chalk board and paint board, and now I do have my chalk board and paint board. A long time ago I didn't have Bluey and Bingo, and now I do have Bluey and Bingo.

In April, my Dad took down the baby gate to his office, so now we can go in his office whenever we want. My brother drew texta on my bed sheet, so Mum and Dad changed it to a new sheet and Doona cover and pillow covers.



**AGE 5-8 SHORTLISTED ENTRY**



**MY CHANGING WORLD**  
**BY ALEXANDER T. AGE 7**



At the start of the year I left home at 8am and went to school every day. Life was very busy. Now I'm homeschooling which I like more and started because Covid-19. I have not seen my school friends since March. I have made some new friends through home ed zoom groups and Scouts. I get to spend more time on learning things when I need to. Like reading - I have gone from level 8 to level 16 since April. I have also learnt how to write voice to text on google docs.

For my birthday I got a cat we named George and he was a kitten he was hiding under a house. Some people found him and put a picture on Facebook and we got the cat. If Covid did not happen we would not have George because we were not home much. I love learning at home with George beside me. George sits on a blanket in a little box beside my desk and watches me do English, maths and zooms.

On the home-ed zooms we play games like charades, Pictionary, share music, books, written stories and do craft. Scout's is really fun. We have done virtual camping, Morse Code, sand art and made paper flowers for mother's day. We have more time now to do fun things at home. I really like baking with my mum and playing sports in the yard with my dad. Mum takes us for walks on the farm, the other day we rescued a calf that had got lost from its mum.

We hired cornets from the shire brass band and I am learning to make sound through it. We borrowed a lot of books from the library so that we can read about all sorts of stuff.