Why are people covering their faces?
A story for deadly kids under 12

Adults and older kids are covering their faces to stop the Coronavirus
This is a picture of the Coronavirus, it can make some people feel sick. It has made lots of people sick already.

We are all trying to STOP the spread of the virus.

We are all trying to stop our Elders, family, friends and our community from getting the virus.

We can stop the virus by washing our hands, staying 1.5 metres from people we don’t live with, and stay home if we feel unwell.
We wear masks that cover our faces to stop the virus.

Before Coronavirus, not many people wore masks, people only wore masks at hospitals or at work. On TV or movies superheroes also wear masks.

Wearing a mask is new.
Now Elders, Aunties, Uncles, cousins and older brothers and sisters are wearing masks too.

It can feel a bit strange to see people in masks. You can’t see their noses and mouths. You can’t see them smiling with their mouths. Can you see them smile with their eyes?
There are lots of different kinds of masks in different colours and shapes. All masks cover the mouth and the nose. Some masks are also bandanas or scarves.

Some people don’t have to wear masks.

Deadly kids under 12 don’t have to wear a mask.

Babies, little sisters and brothers under 2 must not wear a mask, it’s not safe for them.
Some adults might decide with their doctor not wear a mask, that’s okay too.

Together we are stopping the virus and keeping our Elders and community safe.

Lots of people are wearing masks, it feels a bit strange, but it’s okay.