

Wazi's Wonderful World, momentsentertainment, South Africa

“We have been working with a young team of animators and produced a series of children’s animations on #covid-19. We wanted to be able to offer children an alternative factual information that wouldn’t be too scary for them to understand. We have spent time working on a series “Wazi’s Wonderful World” which was to be an African adventure celebrating African culture and traditions. However, when #covid-19 started we decided to change the themes very quickly and to start producing facts and information for children. So, in the first Episode you see #Wazi rushing to the window with her younger brother #Musa to look at the big exciting “World” outside, but then she sees the notice #StayHome and so all her adventures change to learning about the #CoronaVirus and sharing with her friends the information she is learning. Each episode highlights a different concern – we emphasised ‘Stay at Home’ as a main theme.

1. We have a SEPEDI version- A South African local language
2. English version of episode 1
3. Kiswahili version for the mainly ‘migrant’ and ‘refugee’ community in South Africa but we could also share with our partners in Kiswahili speaking countries for example East Africa
4. We gave the children basic information on the #covid-19 virus and how they can protect themselves.
5. We wanted to involve children in the ‘live action’ – on washing hands whilst singing Happy Birthday- we managed to get children from South Africa and UAE.
6. We wanted to show children how their friends in difficult situations are also managing to wash their hands even though water is scarce. So, we have a few live-action videos of children saving water and still washing their hands.
7. We managed to get Yvonne Chaka Chaka (South African music icon) to also speak to the characters especially about #Ubuntu (I am because you are) and #Sharing is #caring
8. We will include Disability in the series to show children and caregivers the challenges for people with disabilities and how they need to ensure that their wheelchair or other apparatus are continuously disinfected.

Also, not that we had to pivot the animations in view of #Covid-19 and thus these short animations were produced.”

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