



Guide for Kids during Corona, TVOkids, Canada

“TVO is a government agency of Ontario’s Ministry of Education whose mandate has always been to have TVOkids serve the youngest citizens of Ontario by engaging, entertaining and educating them on-air and online. From the very beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic TVOkids has made it our responsibility to help our audience of 2-8-year olds understand what was happening in the world around them, to feel safe and loved. At first, we educated our audience from the studio as part of our daily live 15min show and when TVO staff moved off-site to home offices we continued to create content from our homes. Using iPhones and props found at home the team has managed to create an extensive amount of quality pieces that are helpful in the lives of kids and their families during this time. Whether creating crafts to ward off boredom, trying out science experiments to learn something new or singing songs our three hosts provided friendship to our audience who weren’t able to visit with their own friends or family. TVOkids was able to give a platform to a variety of professional experts who help strengthen and support the mental and physical health of our viewers. We have embraced and honoured questions, grief and curiosity that come directly from the kids in our community. When the Ministry of Education announced schools in Ontario were not returning to class TVOkids partnered with volunteer teachers to offer teachers a platform to teach daily one-hour lessons “Power Hour of Learning” at utilized TVOkids co-productions as part of their lessons. We also produced a mini fitness series “Power Up Fitness” to ensure our kids were doing more than just enjoying screen time! As well, TVOkids multiple channels (linear and digital) were able to be a support Sinking Ship’s Home4School digital learning property as well as 16 Hudson’s and Odd Squad’s COVID PSAs. Our small, but mighty, team has selflessly dedicated their days to giving kids hope, knowledge and humour despite the endless obstacles and challenges the world is facing. Though we are separated by crisis, our hope is that you will see our everlasting commitment to children and that we can one day look back and celebrate this award with the children and families of Ontario, Canada.”

<https://www.tvokids.com/>