



# LIVING HISTORY: LOCKDOWN MEMOIR

## ABSTRACT

**Level:** Key Stage 2, ages 7-11 (Years 3-6)

**Subjects:** History and Creative Writing





## Living History: Lockdown Memoir

An Exercise in Living History by Llandudno Museum

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History is made of true stories written by people just like you! Historians include palaeontologists (scientists who study plant and animal fossils), archaeologists (scientists who study human history), and geologists (scientists who study rocks). A memoir is a true story about memories. Historians use these memoirs to help us understand what history looks like through the eyes of a writer. In this assignment we are going to write a very short memoir to record your experiences during Lockdown right now. When writing memoirs, it is important to remember that as long as your story is true and based on your experiences, there are no wrong answers. Let's get started. Write your answers to the following questions on a separate piece of paper with your name, your age, and the date you are writing on the top.

1. What does the word quarantine mean to you?

Guidance: sometimes words bring different thoughts and pictures into our mind. Write the word Quarantine and the describe some of the thoughts you have when you hear that word.

2. What did your day look like before the Lockdown started?

Guidance: How did you get to school? What did you do at recess? What games did you play with friends? Write some of the things you remember about being in school before lockdown started.

3. How did you feel on your first day in Lockdown?

Guidance: Your feelings are important. What were your thoughts when your parents or guardians told you that everyone was going into lockdown? What did you think it meant?

4. What does your day look like now that you are in Lockdown?

Guidance: Lockdown means a lot of changes. In this section write about what has changed in your daily life? Do you like these changes?

5. What is the most interesting thing you've learned during Lockdown?

Guidance: Your school sent home lots of activities. Which ones have been your favourite? Make a list of the ones you liked best and tell us why you loved them.

6. In 1 year, what do you think you will remember most about being in Lockdown?

Guidance: So many things have happened during Lockdown. Which part of Lockdown do you think you will remember the most? Write about what you will remember and why.

Congratulations! You've just made history.

If you want to do an experiment with Llandudno Museum on memoirs as history, you can ask a parent or guardian to email a picture or a copy of your memoir to [deann@llandudnomuseum.co.uk](mailto:deann@llandudnomuseum.co.uk) with the subject line marked Lockdown Memoir 2020. One year from the first date of the UK lockdown, Llandudno Museum will make these memoirs available to the public to read. If you don't want to send it in, you can just put your memoir in an envelope with the date on it and put it away for a year. When you read it again think about how your thoughts on the lockdown might have changed over time.

## Living History: Lockdown Memoir

Other nonfiction you might enjoy:

### Current Day Memoir:

- **I Am Malala: How One Girl Stood Up for Education and Changed the World** by Malala Yousafzai and Patricia McCormick
- **Being Jazz: My Life as a (Transgender) Teen** by Jazz Jennings

### Graphic Novel Memoir:

- **Persepolis** by Marjane Satrapi
- **El Deafo** by Cece Bell

