

Understanding Social Distancing

Social distancing is something that is introduced by a government. It includes asking people to do things that can help to stop a virus from spreading quickly from person to person.

Social distancing might include:

- staying at home as much as possible;
- only meeting people outside and at a safe distance;
- avoiding going inside other people's homes.

What Might Social Distancing Look Like?

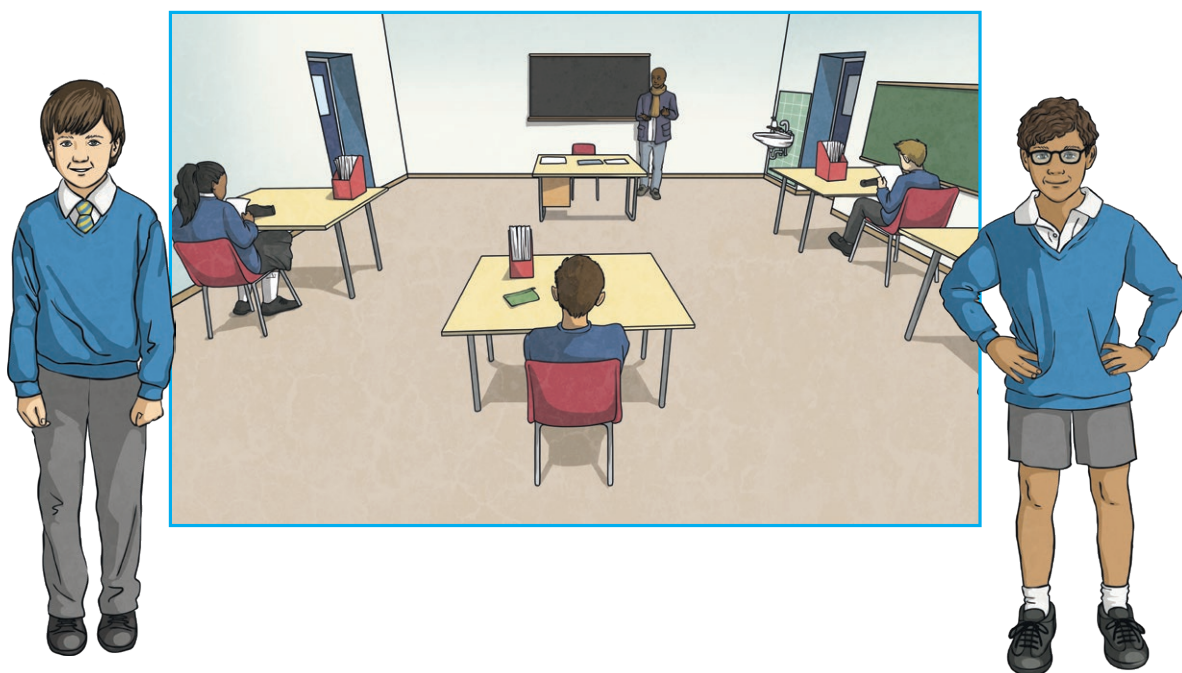
Social distancing might mean that some normal activities look a bit different. This is because social distancing often asks people to stay a safe distance away from others who don't live in the same home as them.

These stories are from children who are socially distancing.

Myra and Jagrati are sisters. They've noticed that a few things have changed at home. Usually, their house is busy with people but they've not had many visitors recently. As they've not been able to see their grandparents in person for a while, they have been chatting with them on video calls. Last week, they even put on a play that they had written themselves. Everyone found it really funny! Although they miss seeing their grandparents in person, they know that staying at a distance is helping to keep everyone safe.



Jozef and Donal have recently gone back to school. At first, things felt strange but they soon got used to a new way of working. Outside, there are arrows and lines on the floor that help people to keep a safe distance apart. In their classroom, everyone has their own safe space to work in. They've also found that there are lots of fun games that they can play together while keeping a safe distance apart. Although their class is smaller than it used to be, they're happy that they can see each other every day.



How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?

It can be difficult to know how long social distancing will last for. This is because there are lots of things that a government has to think about before they can tell people to stop social distancing. It's important to remember that it won't last forever and that it's helping to keep people safe.

Questions

1. Who do Myra and Jagrati speak to on video calls? Tick one.

- each other
- their grandparents
- their parents
- their teacher

2. Which of these is **not** an example of social distancing? Tick one.

- Staying at home as much as possible.
- Meeting people outside at a safe distance.
- Not going inside people's houses.
- Meeting lots of different people inside.

3. Who introduces social distancing? Tick one.

- the government
- teachers
- doctors
- nurses

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.

At first, things felt strange
when...

It can be difficult
to know...

Everyone found it really
funny when...

Myra and Jagrati put on
a play.

how long social
distancing will last for.

Jozef and Donal went
back to school.

5. Fill in the missing words.

Social distancing often asks people to stay a safe _____ away from others who don't live in the same _____ as them.

6. Look at the first paragraph.

Find and copy one word which means the same as **passing**.

7. Explain how Jozef and Donal might have been feeling when they went back to school.

Answers

1. Who do Myra and Jagrati speak to on video calls? Tick one.

- each other
- their grandparents**
- their parents
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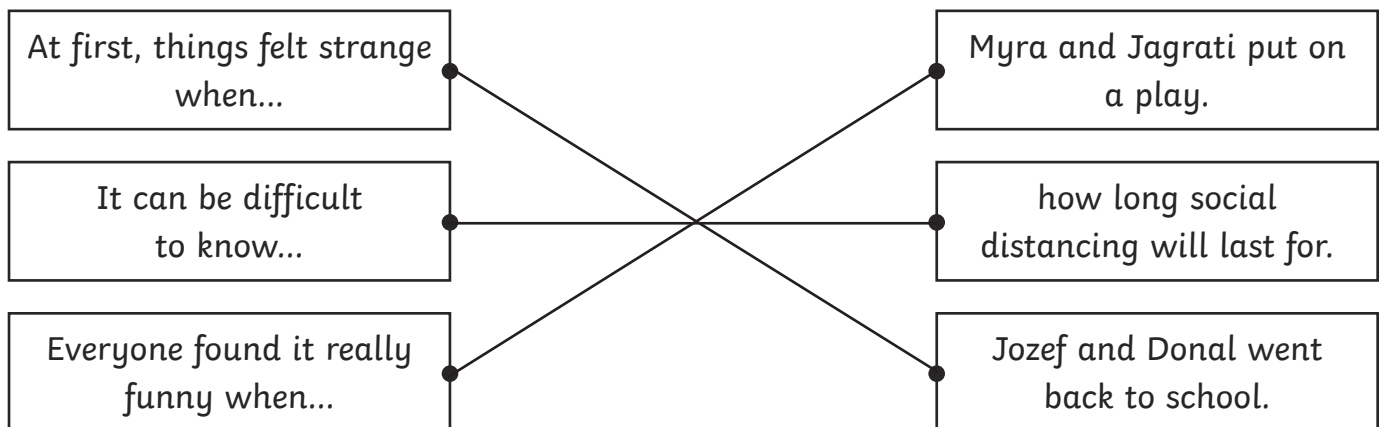
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- the government**
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- nurses

4. Draw **three** lines and complete each sentence.



5. Fill in the missing words.

Social distancing often asks people to stay a safe **distance** away from others who don't live in the same **home** as them.

6. Look at the first paragraph.

Find and copy one word which means the same as **passing**.

spreading

7. Explain how Jozef and Donal might have been feeling when they went back to school.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Jozef and Donal might have been feeling worried because they didn't know how school was going to change. They might have also been excited to see each other again.

Understanding Social Distancing

Social distancing is an idea that is introduced by a government. It includes asking people to do things that can help to slow the spread of a virus. Viruses are a type of germ and they can spread between people. Social distancing helps people to stay at a safe distance from one another so that the virus is less likely to spread.

When introducing social distancing measures, a government might ask people to:

- stay at home as much as possible;
- only meet people outside while keeping a safe distance apart;
- avoid going into other people's homes.

What Might Social Distancing Look like at Home?

If social distancing is happening, you might have fewer visitors to your home than normal. This is because social distancing often suggests that people who don't live together should stay apart as much as possible. If people do visit your home, they might only stay in the garden and not come inside.

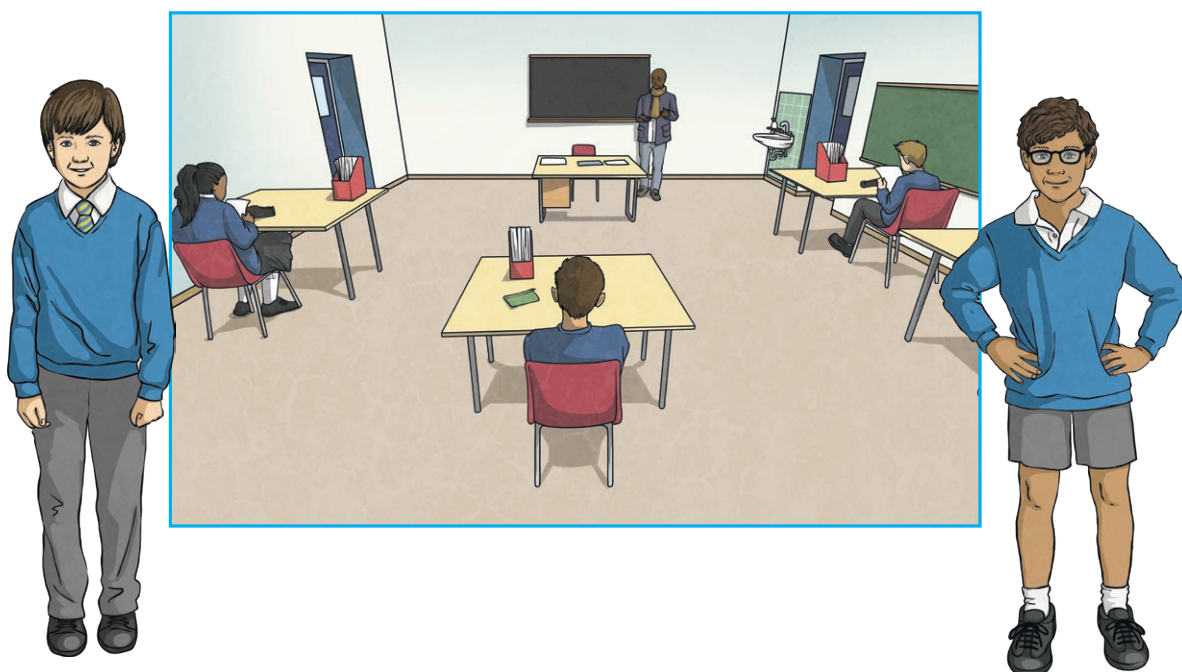
Myra and Jagrati are sisters who are socially distancing. They've not been able to see their grandparents in person for a while so they have been doing lots of video calls with them. Last week, they even put on a play together for them to watch. Everyone found it really funny! Although they wish that they could give their grandparents a hug, they know that they're helping to keep everyone safe by staying at a distance.



What Might Social Distancing Look like at School?

At school, social distancing might mean that there are fewer people in your class with you. At breaktime and lunchtime, you could be asked to keep a safe distance from others and there might be a one-way system in place around the building.

Jozef and Donal have recently returned to school. When they first went back, everything felt a little strange but they soon got used to a new way of working. Their classroom had changed so that everyone has their own space to learn in. They've also found lots of fun games that they can play at a safe distance from one another.



How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?

There are lots of things that a government has to think about before they can make changes to any social distancing guidelines. This means that it can be difficult to tell how long social distancing will last for. However, it's important to remember that it's put in place to keep people safe and is not meant to last forever.

Questions

1. When Jozef and Donal first returned to school, how did everything feel? Tick one.

- normal
- ordinary
- strange
- confusing

2. What did Myra and Jagrati do last week? Tick one.

- Put on a play.
- Visited their grandparents.
- Played in the park.
- Visited their neighbours.

3. Draw **four** lines and complete each sentence.

Myra and Jagrati know that...	is introduced by a government.
Social distancing is an idea that...	people who don't live together should try and stay apart.
Jozef and Donal have found that...	they are helping to keep everyone safe.
Social distancing often suggests that...	there are lots of fun games that can be played at a distance.

4. Look at the section **How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?**

Which word in this section means the same as **advice**? Tick one.

- government
- distancing
- changes
- guidelines

5. Fill in the missing words.

_____ are a type of germ and they can _____ between people.

6. Why can it be difficult to know how long social distancing will last for?

7. Summarise what you have learnt about social distancing using 25 words or fewer.

8. What do you think might happen during Myra and Jagrati's next video call with their grandparents?

Answers

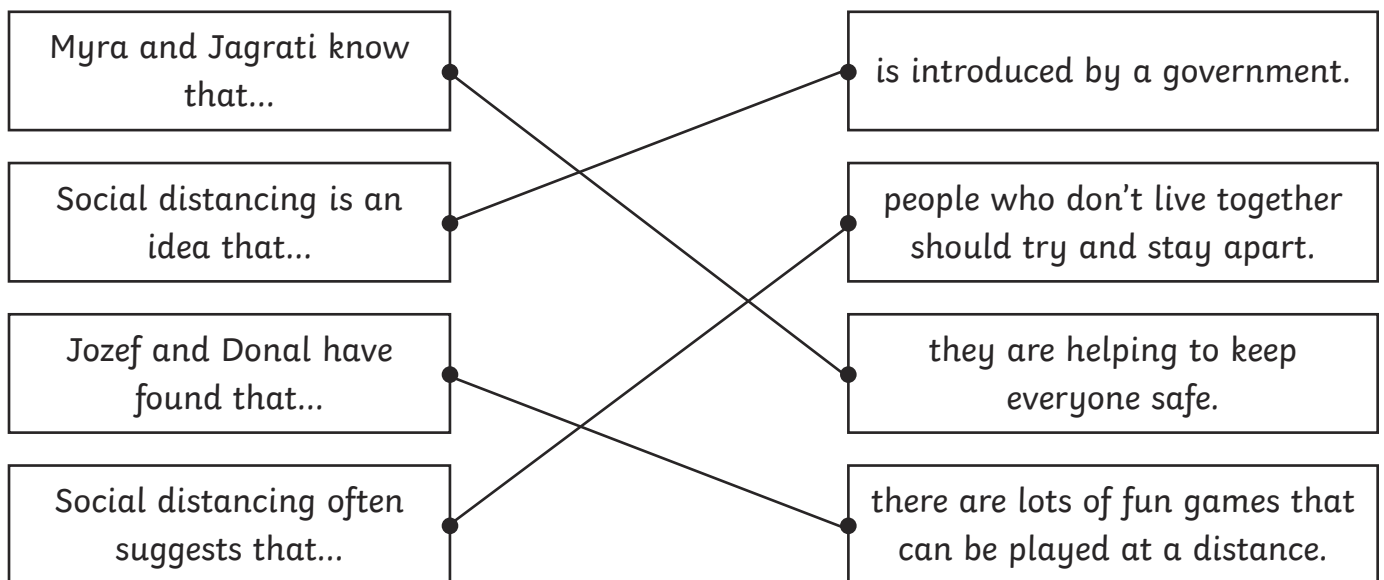
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Which word in this section means the same as **advice**? Tick one.

- government
- distancing
- changes
- guidelines**

5. Fill in the missing words.

Viruses are a type of germ and they can **spread** between people.

6. Why can it be difficult to know how long social distancing will last for?

It can be difficult to know how long social distancing will last for because there are a lot of things that a government has to think about before they can make any changes.

7. Summarise what you have learnt about social distancing using 25 words or fewer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: It is something that is introduced by a government to help people to stay at a safe distance to slow the spread of a virus.

8. What do you think might happen during Myra and Jagrati's next video call with their grandparents?

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that their grandparents might put on a funny play for them to watch instead.

Understanding Social Distancing

Social distancing is a concept that is introduced by a government. It involves asking people to do things that can help to slow the spread of a virus around a population. As viruses are a type of germ, they can spread between people if someone with the virus comes close to someone who doesn't have it. Social distancing aims to stop this from happening as much as possible by helping people to stay at a safe distance from one another.

When putting social distancing measures in place, a government might ask people to:

- stay at home as much as possible;
- only meet people outside while keeping a safe distance apart;
- avoid going into other people's homes;
- keep a safe distance between themselves and people who don't live in the same house as them.

What Might Social Distancing Look like at Home?

If there are social distancing measures in place, you could notice that some things are different at home. For example, you might have fewer visitors than normal. This is because social distancing often suggests that people from different households should stay apart as much as possible. If people do visit your home, they might only stay in the garden and not come inside.

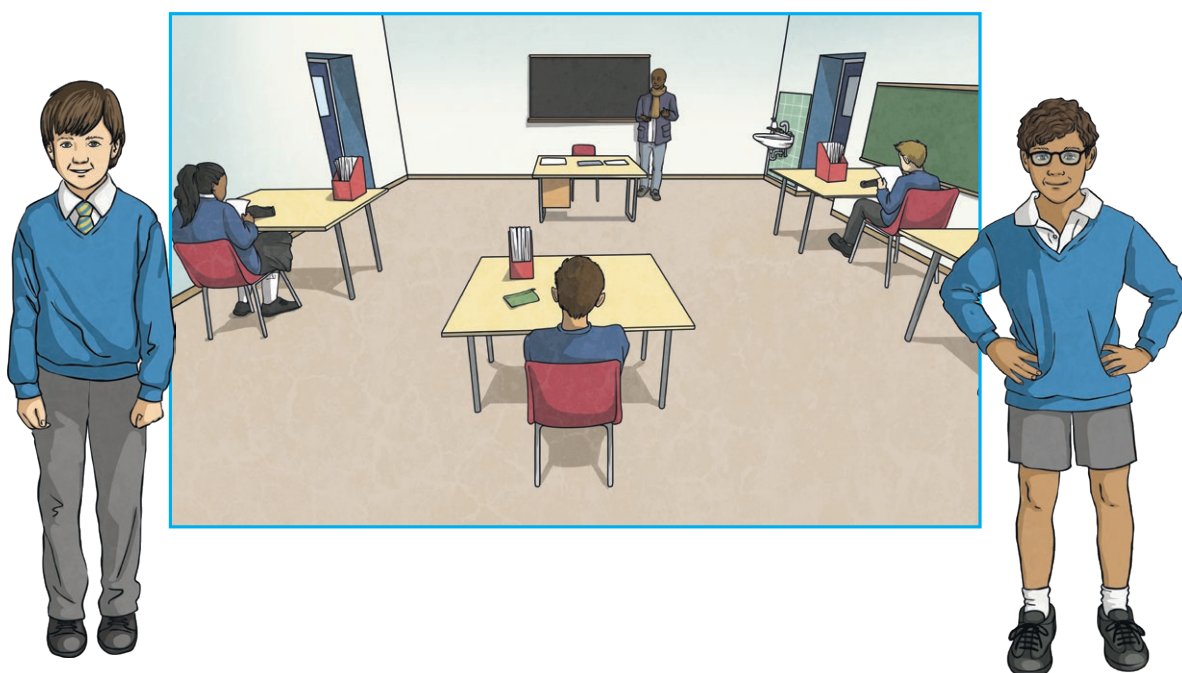
Myra and Jagrati are sisters who are socially distancing at home. Although they've not been able to see their grandparents face to face for a while, they have been doing lots of video calls with them. During a call last week, they performed a play together for them to watch. Everyone found it hilarious! They look forward to giving their grandparents a hug soon but know that they're helping to keep everyone safe by staying at a safe distance.



What Might Social Distancing Look like at School?

At school, social distancing might mean that your class size is smaller than usual. Break times and lunch times might be staggered and you could be asked to keep a safe distance from others. Some schools might even have a one-way system in place along corridors and in other small spaces.

Jozef and Donal have recently returned to school after it was closed to most pupils for a while. When they first went back, everything felt a little strange but they were delighted to be back in a class together. Their classroom had been organised so that each pupil has their own space to learn in. In addition, they've also discovered plenty of games that they can play at a safe distance from one another.



How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?

There are lots of different factors that a government has to consider before changing any guidance on social distancing. This means that it can be difficult to predict how long it will last for. However, it's important to remember that social distancing is only meant to be temporary and is put in place to help keep people safe. While social distancing can affect a number of day-to-day activities, there are still lots of ways that you can keep in contact while maintaining a safe distance from others.

Questions

1. Which of the following is **not** an example of social distancing? Tick one.

- Meeting people outside at a safe distance.
- Avoiding going to other people's houses.
- Playing games together at a safe distance.
- Being in close contact with lots of different people.

2. **Social distancing is a concept that is introduced by a government.**

Tick the word that is closest in meaning to the word **concept**.

- picture
- idea
- leaflet
- paper

3. What are viruses a type of?

4. Look at the section **How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?**

Find and copy one word that means the same as **details**.

5. Fill in the missing words.

Social _____ often suggests that people from different

_____ should stay apart as much as possible.

6. Explain why you think that the author has chosen to include stories from children.

7. How do you think Myra and Jagrati's grandparents felt when they saw them performing a play? Fully explain your answer.

8. Compare Myra and Jagrati's experiences of social distancing with Jozef and Donal's experiences of social distancing.

Answers

1. Which of the following is **not** an example of social distancing? Tick one.

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3. What are viruses a type of?

Viruses are a type of germ.

4. Look at the section **How Long Does Social Distancing Last For?**

Find and copy one word that means the same as **details**.

factors

5. Fill in the missing words.

Social **distancing** often suggests that people from different **households** should stay apart as much as possible.

6. Explain why you think that the author has chosen to include stories from children.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that the author has chosen to include stories from children so that it is easier to understand how social distancing might affect different people. It also makes it more interesting by explaining social distancing like a story.

7. How do you think Myra and Jagrati's grandparents felt when they saw them performing a play? Fully explain your answer.

Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that Myra and Jagrati's grandparents felt really happy to see them performing a play because in the text, it says that they found it hilarious.

8. Compare Myra and Jagrati's experiences of social distancing with Jozef and Donal's experiences of social distancing.

Pupils' own responses, such as: Both sets of children are experiencing things that are different to normal. Jozef and Donal say that it felt 'strange' and Myra and Jagrati say that 'they haven't been able to see their grandparents face to face for a while'. They are also both finding ways to have fun by either putting on plays or playing fun games at a safe distance.