
Coronavirus Stories: Bringing School into Our Homes

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15/04/2020



"We are having Daniela watch the classes on TV, and we spend two hours of study every day in weekdays" ...
"Renata has behaved quite well, better than I expected, even watching the classes on TV" ...

"Anakin looks at me with his face saying: Mom, study again! ...

Those are some of the stories of my friends from college, all with the huge responsibility of becoming teachers around these days of Coronavirus and quarantine, on top of the never-ending task of being parents.

And I say teachers because the reality right now goes beyond the boundaries of everyday life, where we become part or get involved in the Cuban educational system, assignments, practical work, or simply studying with our children.

That's why, like those doctors and health personnel watching over our health daily life, the work of educators is priceless, it's vital and worthy of all the applause and glory in the world, even if they fit in a grain of corn.

These days the Cuban Ministry of Education at all levels make efforts to move school to each of our homes.

The idea is that, while staying at home, it's crucial that students do not deviate themselves from study. They have classes on TV that allow them to refresh and advance their levels of knowledge, not suffering the "oblivion" that a month or more outside the classroom could cause, and may even be qualified as suitable for entrance exams to Lenin or Higher Education.

A well-structured design by ages, school years, days of the week and subjects. A scheme that even allows us, to have a double session, to combine science and humanities subjects, to find a means of leisure or relaxation and resume with desire the path of knowledge.

An effort that I dare say that almost no nation in the midst of this pandemic "apocalypse" has implemented.

The design is so comprehensive that there's even time for preschool education, on Mondays at 2 o'clock on the Cuban television.

I am convinced, through those matters of life and the diversity of the human species, that a few will reject this almost unique opportunity.

I'd like to think that most parents use school materials, and with that endearing love that characterizes them, follow the example of my friends, who have already banished adolescence and are now fulltime parents, or like my friend and colleague Giusette, who plays the roles of mother and father with her Amanda Sofía and Javier Luis.

Me, with a muscle control I didn't know I had and negative skills for crafts, have found myself doing different activities with my little Enzo Samuel. He still does not go to school, but at age 3 in these last days he has had plenty of drawing activities, clay modeling, cutting and coloring geometric figures ...

Without a great budget the daycare center can also be brought closer to home.

In the midst of this necessary state of confinement these are thanking lines. Knowledge is never enough, and if by our government's will we have the privileged of having it at home daily, then Cubans: let's take advantage of it.

Let's have another compelling reason to applaud every night at 9:00 sharp. One that goes to the dedication of many who suddenly readjusted study programs for each subject to make it accessible on television.

I'd like to say farewell for now until the next story of Coronavirus thinking of many children and their parents, who on April 4 did not miss such important date for the Cuban pioneers and young, so that in the midst of adversity we could give a boost to knowledge and ideology amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

Translated by Amilkal Labañino / Cubasi Translation Staff
