THE VIRUS-STOPPING CHAMPION

HELPING CHILDREN FIGHT COVID-19
NABU’s mission
NABU is a New York-based 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, with a mission to solve the imbalance in children’s book creation and distribution, so all children can read and rise to their full potential. We disrupt the cycle of poverty by leveraging technology to publish children’s books for free on digital platforms in mother tongue languages.

About the Health - COVID-19 Collection
As we publish this book in April 2020, the world is facing a global pandemic which will impact children and their families in every country. As a result of COVID-19, an estimated 1.37 billion students globally are out of school today and face interruptions to their learning. As a digital platform, NABU is providing the most vulnerable children with resources at home to ensure that they are able to stay safe and continue their learning. Moreover, misinformation about the virus is pervasive, and parents and families need access to accurate information and sensitive ways to talk to their children about the virus, to help keep them and their communities safe.

In response, NABU created this collection with the support of experts in the field of health, neuroscience and child development, and a team of authors who pitched in to create information-rich, compelling stories. Created in Rwanda and illustrated by NABU’s incredible Rwandan illustrators, the stories were published in Kinyarwanda, and also made available in English for families globally. Wherever you are reading, we hope you and your family stay safe and that this story brings you comfort and hope for brighter days ahead.

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The Virus-Stopping Champion

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There is a virus that everyone is talking about. It’s traveling around the world, making people sick and scared and worried.
The virus travels from one person to the next very easily.
Dad tells me that the virus is not very serious for kids like me, which makes me happy.
But Mum tells me the virus is very serious for some people, particularly the elderly, which makes me sad.
Then my parents tell me there is something we can all do to help stop the virus.
This is exciting because I love helping. I want to be the best at helping! I want to be a virus-stopping champion!
What can I do to help stop the virus? Do I have to learn how to do somersaults in the air? Do I have to know all my times tables?
No, thank goodness! I just need to stay at home as much as possible, and so do you, and so do your friends and family. If we need to buy food, then we should stay 1.5 meters away from each other. If we all do this, we can stop the virus from traveling.
It sounds easy. But I will miss playing with my friends. I will miss sitting on my Grandpa’s lap. I will miss lots of things.
Then I think about how much I love the people in my family. I think about how much I love the people in my street, and my village, and my country. Actually, I love everyone in the world! I will send my love out to everyone on earth. See? My love travels further than the virus.
The End
NABU

About NABU Stories
NABU creates children’s stories with a cultural point of view. Children who are exposed to multiple cultures and languages are more likely to become lifelong learners and compassionate global citizens. We believe that culturally relevant stories that reflect who children see when they look in the mirror help to develop healthy self-esteem and a sense of pride, and children who learn about cultures different from their own are much more likely to develop into adults who value the dignity of human life and making the world a better place for all.

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Kevin NTWALI ISHIMWE is a Rwandan visual artist specializing in comic and graphic novel book illustrations, incorporating ink and watercolor on paper. With over six years of experience, Ntwali has worked on 10 personal books and numerous collaborative illustration projects. He has certificates of participation in local art competitions, exhibitions and illustration workshops.
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