

Maddie Thoma (Youth) Honorable Mention

Title: Covid is Like a Rollercoaster

Covid is a lot of things. Some things are negative, like bad or sad things. Some things are good though, like new experiences. For me, it was a mix, A rollercoaster. When Covid had just started, there were rumors about what it was. Some people said, “ It's like the flu”. I wasn't too worried at that point.

When the shutdown happened, things started like the start of a roller coaster, intensity rising, but not too much yet. I was just getting the hang of things. Now we had to wear masks and social distance. Things went for the better, or the worse. School started but... we had to go to school online. If I had to describe it in three words, I would say: THIS IS HARD! I had never been absent from “ bad wifi” before.

Eventually, the year was over. The summer was fun except I stayed home a lot. The new year was starting. On the last day of summer, the ride started getting faster. I wasn't really too excited because it meant more virtual school. This time though, I think it went up.

I got to do more of my classes with a less weird schedule. Things were looking up, and I was excited. A while after we started, people started coming to school in person. This was definitely an up. That is kind of how we are now too. Kids are back in school, and even though the masks can be a pain, I never want to see google meet again. I think we're at the final hill now, things were bad, things were good, but good things can come from bad things, so... keep your hands, arms, feet and legs inside the ride until the ride comes to a complete stop and thank you for riding the covid journey.