

Learning During Unusual Times

Empowering Student Voice

We are living and learning in an unprecedented time. We have front row seats to “history-in-the-making” and can document how perspectives, routines, and habits have flipped, which provides different ways to connect and learn.



RESPOND to student art by thinking about the *Challenge and Change* story behind the image. Consider a challenge or change that you experienced during the past year. Examine the student art shown here or look closely at something that you have created.



Alicia B.



Gina L.

CHALLENGE:



Karolina K.



Amy G.

CHANGE STORY:



CREATE your own *Challenge and Change* story. Start by listing five phrases that describe some challenges and changes you have experienced this past year. Select one of them as your story's title. Use an artistic flair to write in a way that expresses emotions you have felt. For example, the letters may be disruptive or look repetitive. The words may have shadows, rays of light, or whirlwind swirls. Write or record an audio story that explains the challenges and changes. Use descriptive words and vocabulary that paint a picture of how unusual this time has been. Think about your frustrations and joyous moments; what exhausted and exhilarated you. Focus on something new that you learned that you otherwise might not have. Reflect on different ways you connected with friends and relatives and how your empathy for others has deepened.

LIST FIVE PHRASES THAT DESCRIBE CHALLENGES AND CHANGES:



PRESENT your story orally. Introduce the title. Engage your audience by asking them to show their emotional reactions as you describe challenges and changes.



CONNECT your *today* story with *tomorrow's history*. Consider how over several generations, historic events have dramatically changed the way people work, celebrate, and learn. History is a living record of people's lives. Capture this moment so you can remember and share it in the future, as a personal account of history.