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COMMUNITY PROTECTORS
“Look! There’s Mr. Eagle and Miss Rabbit!” says Rain.
“It’s our good friends Thunder and Hummingbird,” says Mr. Eagle.

“And Rain. And Simon. But why are they wearing those masks?” asks Miss Rabbit.

“Let’s ask the children. They will help us understand,” says Mr. Eagle.
“It’s good to see you again, children,” Mr. Eagle says. “But why are you wearing masks?”

“There is a disease called COVID-19 spreading around the whole world. It is making people very sick,” says Thunder.

“Oh, dear. How do people get this disease?” asks Miss Rabbit.

“It’s caused by a tiny creature called a virus. When people cough, sneeze, talk, or breathe, they release little droplets into the air. If someone has the virus, the droplets can carry it to people who are sitting or standing close to them.” explains Simon.
“Is that you, Coyote?” asks Hummingbird.
“What are you doing?”

“I heard you all talking. I wanted to know what it was about,” said Coyote.

“Join us,” says Mr. Eagle.

“It’s important that everyone hears this message. Our families and tribal communities help protect one another. There are things we can all do to keep everyone safe. We can all be community protectors,” says Rain.
“When we are in places with groups of people, it is important for people who are not vaccinated to wear a mask,” says Hummingbird.

“Places like the school and the grocery store?” asks Miss Rabbit.

“And community gatherings and ceremonies?” asks Mr. Eagle.

“What about when you play with friends?” asks Coyote.

“Yes. And always wear your mask the correct way. Be sure the mask fits across the top of your nose, snug around your ears and face, and under your chin,” Thunder adds.
“What is social distancing?” asks Coyote.

“It means we need to stay at least 6 feet apart from each other,” explains Simon.

“Wearing a mask and staying six feet apart in groups can help us stay safe. It protects other people too—my family, our elders, ALL of us,” says Thunder.

“Of course,” says Mr. Eagle. “The power of community: together at a distance.”
“I can easily stay 6 feet away on these,” says Coyote.

“That’s not what we mean, Coyote!” states Hummingbird.

“What other ways can we protect ourselves, our families, and our community?” asks Miss Rabbit.
"It is important to wash your hands often with soap and water, especially before you touch your face or eat. Make sure you wash for at least 20 seconds—that’s about how long it takes to sing Happy Birthday two times," explains Rain.
“We should also keep a good routine by staying active, playing outside, getting plenty of sleep, and eating well,” encourages Thunder.
“We can spend time with our family and friends and be together at a distance!”
Well, my friends, you have taught us a lot of things today. We can be community protectors and keep ourselves, our families, and our community safe," says Mr. Eagle.

“Yes. Let’s all remember these very important lessons. How can you be a community protector?” asks Miss Rabbit.
“Wear a mask the correct way. Be sure the mask fits across the top of your nose, snug around your ears and face, and under your chin.”
“Stay at least 6 feet apart from one another—that’s a safe distance,” Coyote says.
“Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. Maybe you can think of a song to sing.”
“Keep doing things that keep your body, mind, and spirit healthy.”
“Remember to do these things with your family, with your friends, and when you are at school to help everyone stay safe and healthy.”
Mr. Eagle says, "The children have helped us learn about COVID-19. Now, I will share these lessons with other communities."

"I’m going to be a community protector and share all that I have learned today with my family, friends, and community," says Miss Rabbit.

"Me too!" says Coyote.
WEAR A MASK
WATCH YOUR DISTANCE
WASH YOUR HANDS
“Remember,” encourages Mr. Eagle, “our communities are strong, and together we will stay safe.”
Learning and speaking your native language is one way you can stay connected to your tribe’s culture. Can you say some of these English words in your tribe’s native language?

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