

Full Length Research Paper

**A Note from the Editorial Review Board:
Dual Language Research and Practice Journal (DLRPJ)**

Dear Colleagues across the world,

We hope everything is well with you and your family. Throughout human history, we have learned that humankind against pandemics and epidemics have been able to survive even with many million in casualties, but always we have survived. I am sure we have always taken care of our children in such times, because we know the children always are our future. What is going on today is not too much different to what happened in the past centuries, and this century, where pandemics and epidemics, such as influenza, AIDs, ebola, zika, yellow fever, or polio, accounted for millions of deaths.

Weeks ago, several colleagues began hearing about how the COVID-19 pandemic is affecting our children socially and emotionally. As a result, we decided to join efforts to create something that might bring our children comfort, strength, and help explaining the current situation that is affecting them and all of the children. *There's No Monster Outside: It's a Virus* book aims to relate to all of the changes that have occurred in children's lives due to the virus, and explain why we're doing things a little differently at the moment — and that those changes don't have to be scary. As the number of cases of COVID-19 continues to rise, children across the country and the world are becoming more anxious about their own health and the health of their loved ones. Knowing many parents and families may struggle with easing those fears, we embarked on writing a children's book that addresses some of these social-emotional concerns. Colleagues with previous work writing children's books, anthologies, and early dual language curriculum were invited to participate and happily joined us.

The book, titled *There's No Monster Outside: It's a Virus*, tells the story of a young boy who hears about the Coronavirus on the news. Through asking his parents questions, he learns more about the virus and how he can stay safe. The book is available to parents, families, caregivers and children and everybody free of charge via the Center for Research and Development in Dual Language and Literacy Acquisition the house that sponsor our Journal of research and practice. So far, the book is available in English, Spanish, Mandarin, Arabic, and Farsi. We wanted to ensure that this work was as accessible as possible, particularly knowing that many family members were out of work and could not access bookstores, or perhaps children were from very rural areas in their countries and could only have access to via a cellphone service. We are hoping to have other authors to come forward and help us trans-adapt the book quickly into even more of the most spoken languages in the world. Currently, the book is published in the aforementioned five languages to serve a basic need during this coronavirus pandemic disease, but we need it published in more languages

This special edition is posted with the hope that many children, parents, families, caregivers, and others can have access to the book in their own languages. It is dedicated to all the children with the purpose to understand the nature of this pandemic disease. Humankind has always been able to overcome all the vicissitudes.

We welcome others to join us and trans-adapt the book in other world languages. Please contact Dr. Rafael Lara-Alecio (a-lara@tamu.edu) if you would like to be a part of this book sharing worldwide.

Respectfully,

The Editorial Board, Dual Language Research and Practice Journal (DLRPJ).

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