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Life During COVID: Preserving Personal Pandemic Stories

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## Finding myself during the COVID-19 pandemic

Ashley

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Relationships to EWU: student

**Additional information:** I am a beginner artist! I mainly work with watercolors but I do like to explore and work with acrylic paint from time to time! I am Guatemalan-American studnet trying to get her degree in Business/Entrepreneurship with a minor in ESL

Your experience during COVID-19: In the beginning, the pandemic did scare me because this was something new for me and for everyone. We all had different ideas, emotions and ways to get through the pandemic. However, focusing on the somewhat bright side, I would say being in quarantine, I grew a stronger bond with my siblings. I am happy that we were able to get closer and know more about each other since we are in different stages in life. Being home was boring, fun, and safe, I really enjoyed it even though outside was dangerous at the time. But as days and weeks went by, I also took the time to find myself. I learned more about myself, what I wanted to do in life, and took the time to do things I never had time to do. But most importantly I learned how to accept myself, love myself and watched myself grow as a new person. Yes, the pandemic was something else and it was scary but at the same time trying new things kept me and my family distracted from the sadness and frustration the pandemic caused. I am more happier to see the growth and changes I went through as well as being close with my family.

