

Halyna Budilova

# Robbie and Crosspatch in CROWN



# When kids are at home

Platon and Mia have been building a Lego royal castle for the whole day. Jerry pup was lying down near the kids. Every princess would be jealous of such a castle: it has a huge dance hall, luxurious royal rooms, a growroom, a garage, a fire station and a prison (obviously, Platon was the chief architect).



- Oh, why do we need a prison here? This is a royal castle for a princess! Let's build a beauty salon for her! So she could do her hair, makeup and nails...They also have that quarantine as well as we do. A princess can't live without a home beauty salon!



- No, she can't live without a prison in the castle! Don't you remember all those stories about dungeons that our mom read to us? With all the terrible dragons living there? And where all the outlaws find themselves if they dare to go against the Crown? MOOOOOM! - Platon suddenly shouts. - Read us about Robin Hood!  
- Again?! - came from the kitchen.  
- Come on, Mom!





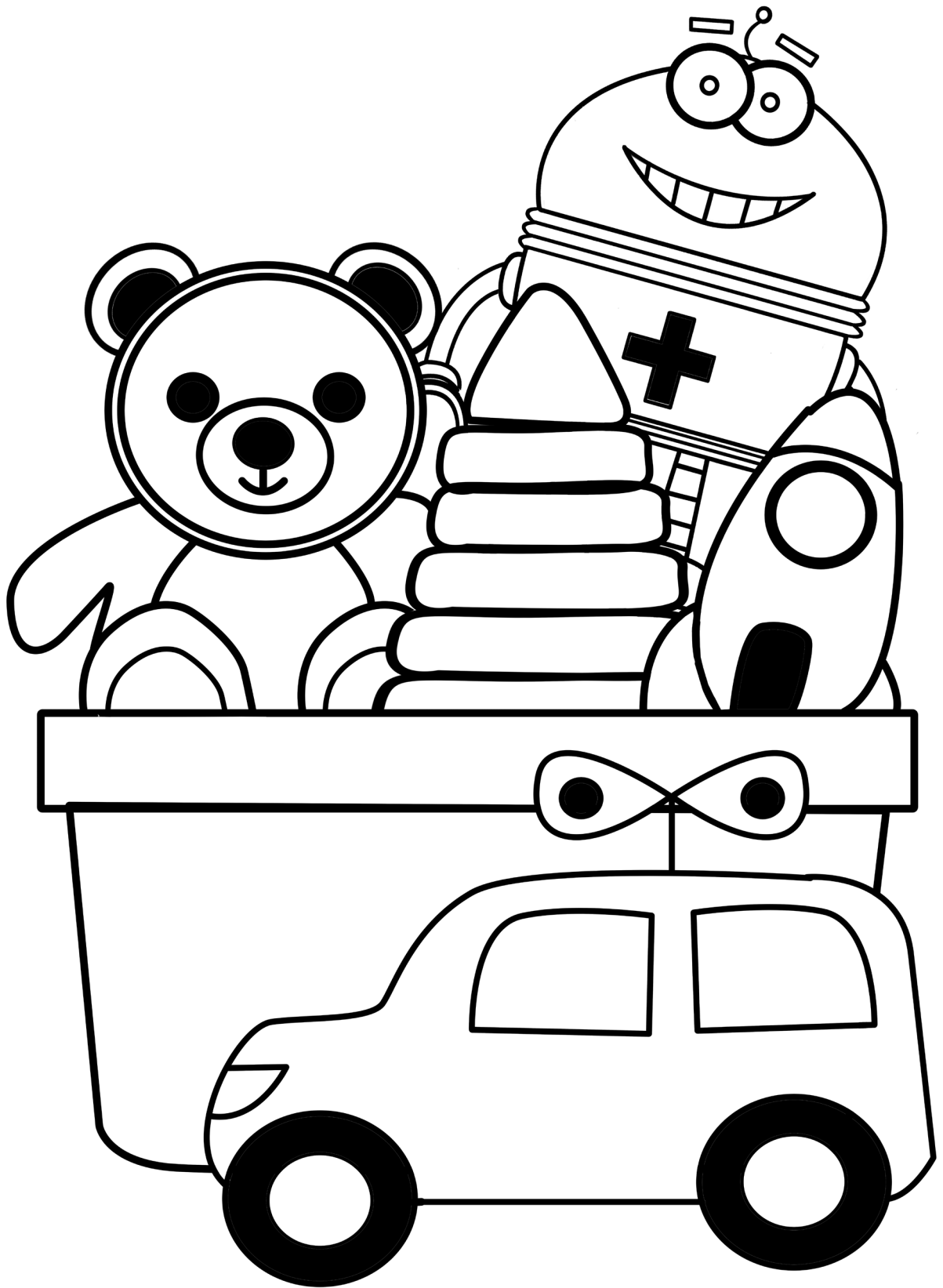


Mom came into the room, looked around all that mess in the room and sighed. It was the third week of the quarantine and she had less and less desire for all the round-the-clock reading, cooking, cleaning, playing games because of that new, unknown virus that was covering the whole planet. Thus, mom decided to be crafty.

- How about you clean everything here and then I'll bring you a small surprise?
- SURPRISE?! - kids' eyes lit up. Even Jerry pup liked that idea and wagged his tail!
- Alright! I'll fetch the surprise and you pick up your toys.





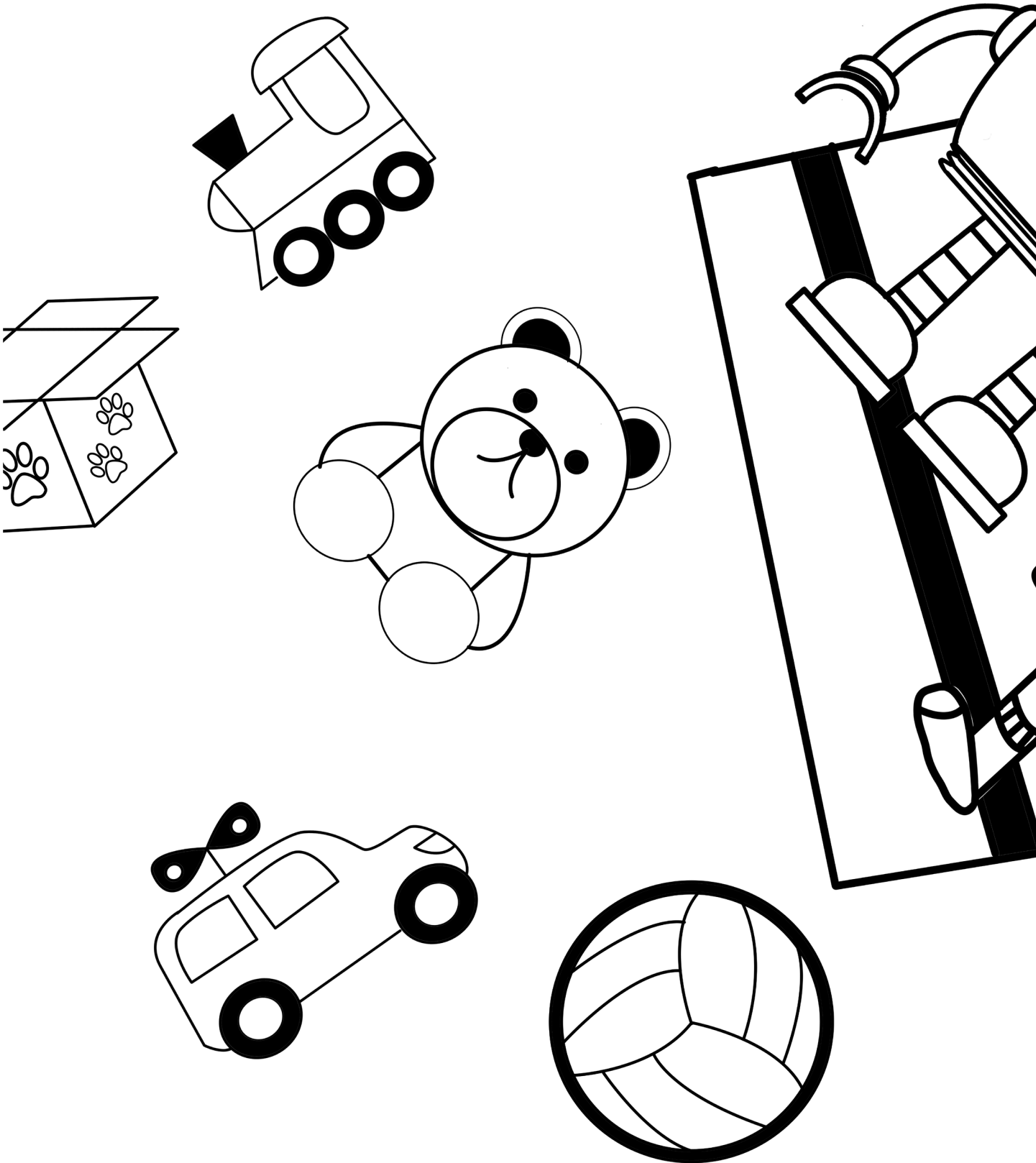


While the kids were cleaning the room, their mom stepped to the balcony. Amidst all those things (*«I should clean up everything here during the quarantine»* - she thought), mom found what she was looking for: a box with the old kids' toys - all long forgotten, broken and dusty. Though, there was a chance for those toys to keep kids busy at least for some time - mom still had to cook soup!



# An interesting discovery

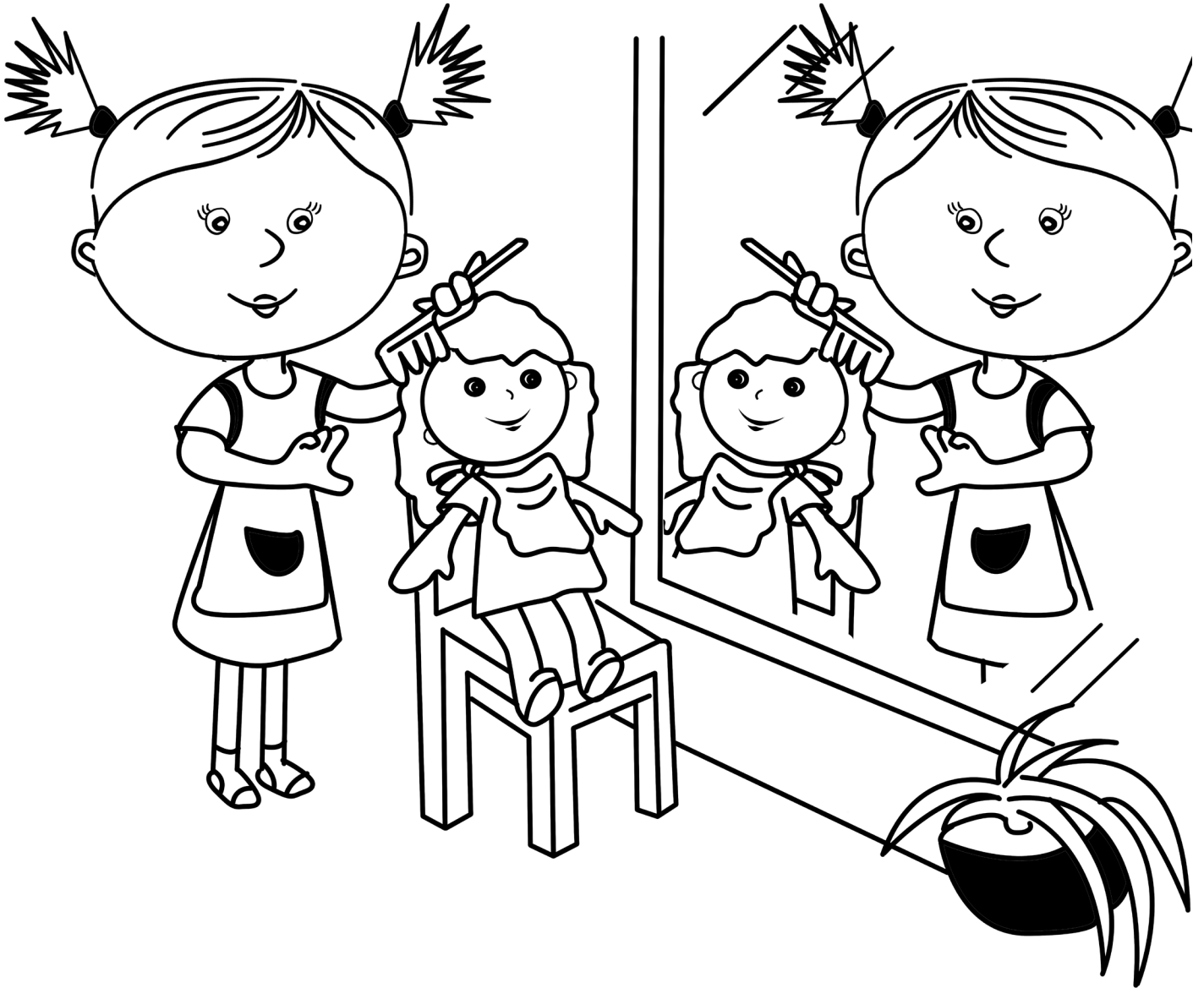
Platon and Mia were surprised while sorting through their old toys: blocks bitten with their first teeth, a pink hammer that Platon used to like so much, and a sport car - Mia's favorite! There were musical instruments that made weird sounds and a super cool robot doctor who could walk and talk.



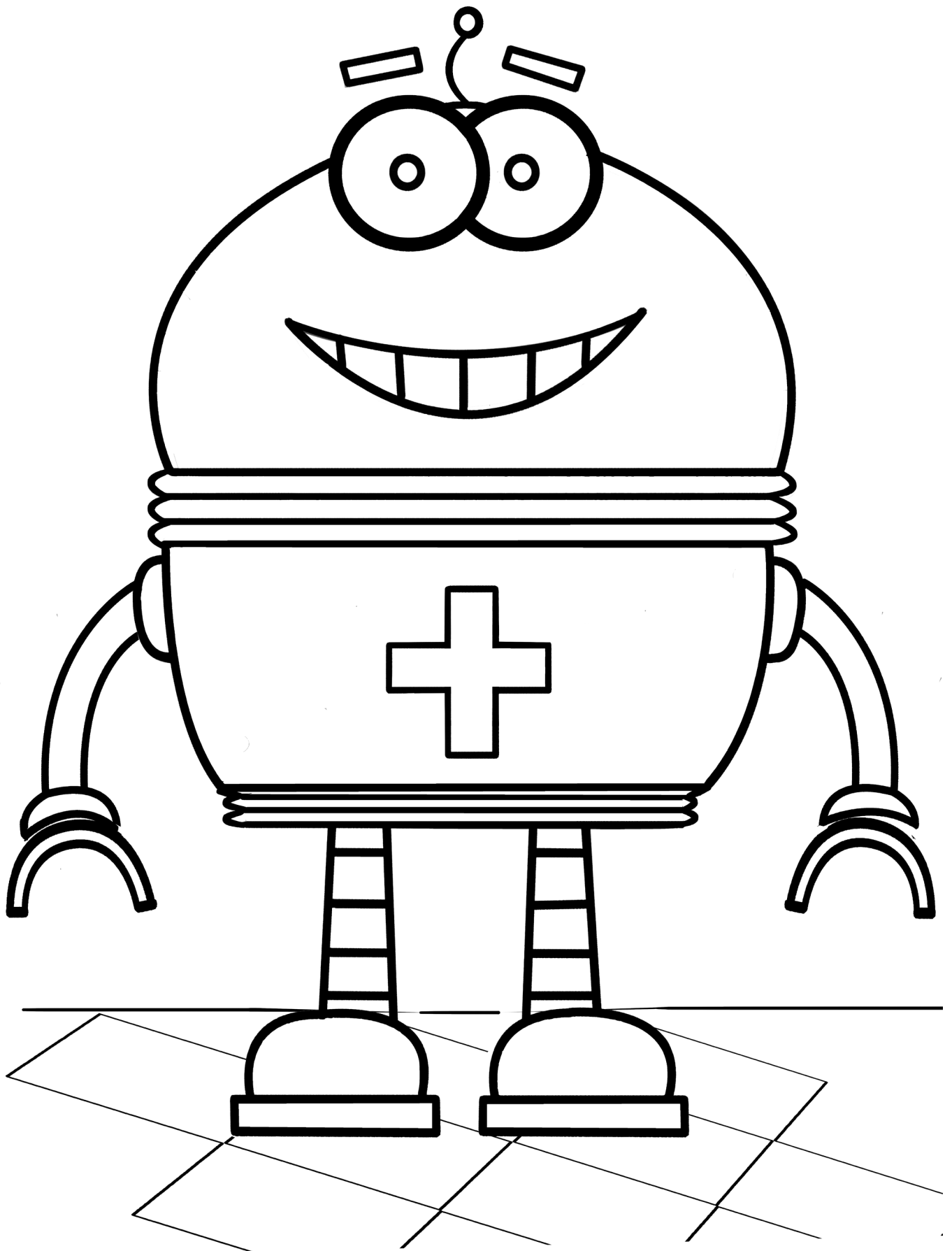


- Wow! This is my doctor Robbie! How could I forget about it?

Mia didn't pay much attention to Robbie at first as she was busy combing her dolls. Then suddenly she heard him speaking to her!



- Hi, Mia! Hi, Platon! I am very glad to see you. I felt so sad in the balcony. So I decided to connect to Wi-Fi and educate myself. Now I am a real doctor! I know everything about all the known human diseases and the viruses that cause them. Also, I know about everything happening in the world.







- That's great! Then you are aware of the quarantine, aren't you? - Platon was so excited about his old friend. He wanted to ask him a million questions! Mia, though, was a bit confused but finally she decided to leave her toys and joined her brother and his robot friend - she was so curious about that new virus everyone was talking about.

- Robbie, can you please tell us more about that Co...Coronus?...Covirus?

- Coronavirus! - Platon shouted. - Tell us about it! Why do we need to sit at home for three weeks already because of it?!

- We don't go to the kindergarten...
  - And to school...
  - We don't go to the playgrounds to spend time with our friends...
  - To football...
  - ... and dance classes! Even our mom doesn't go get her manicure!
- What is this terrible virus that shuts everyone at home without friends and manicure!

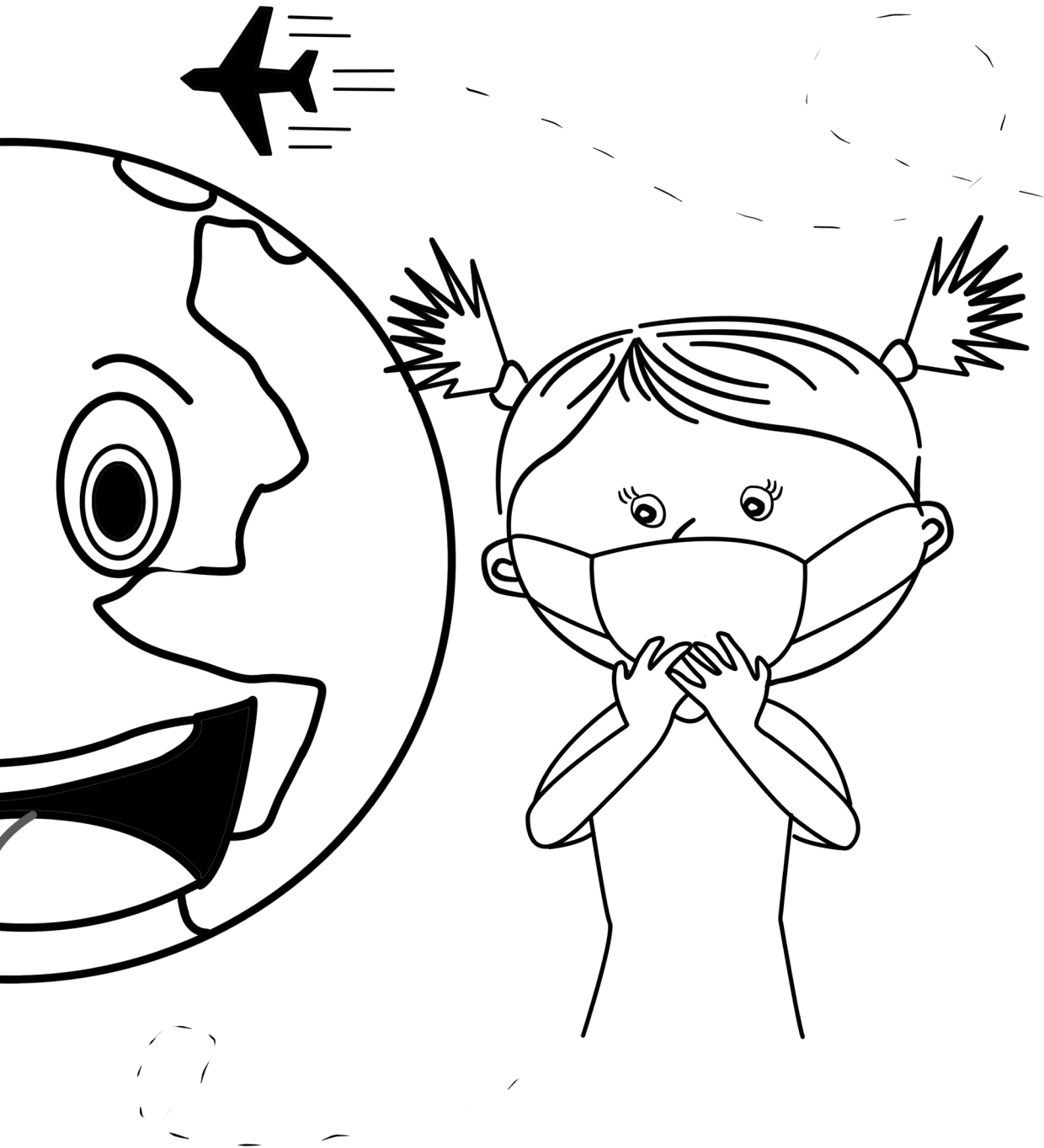


- Friends! Now I'll tell you everything but first tell me please what do you already know about this virus?

- Well...it's very contagious, - Platon started, - that's why we should always wash our hands with soap so it doesn't cling to us.



- Also, I know that it makes all people wear masks and not shake hands... But why? Won't we ever be able to hug our favorite auntie or hold hands with the bestie?

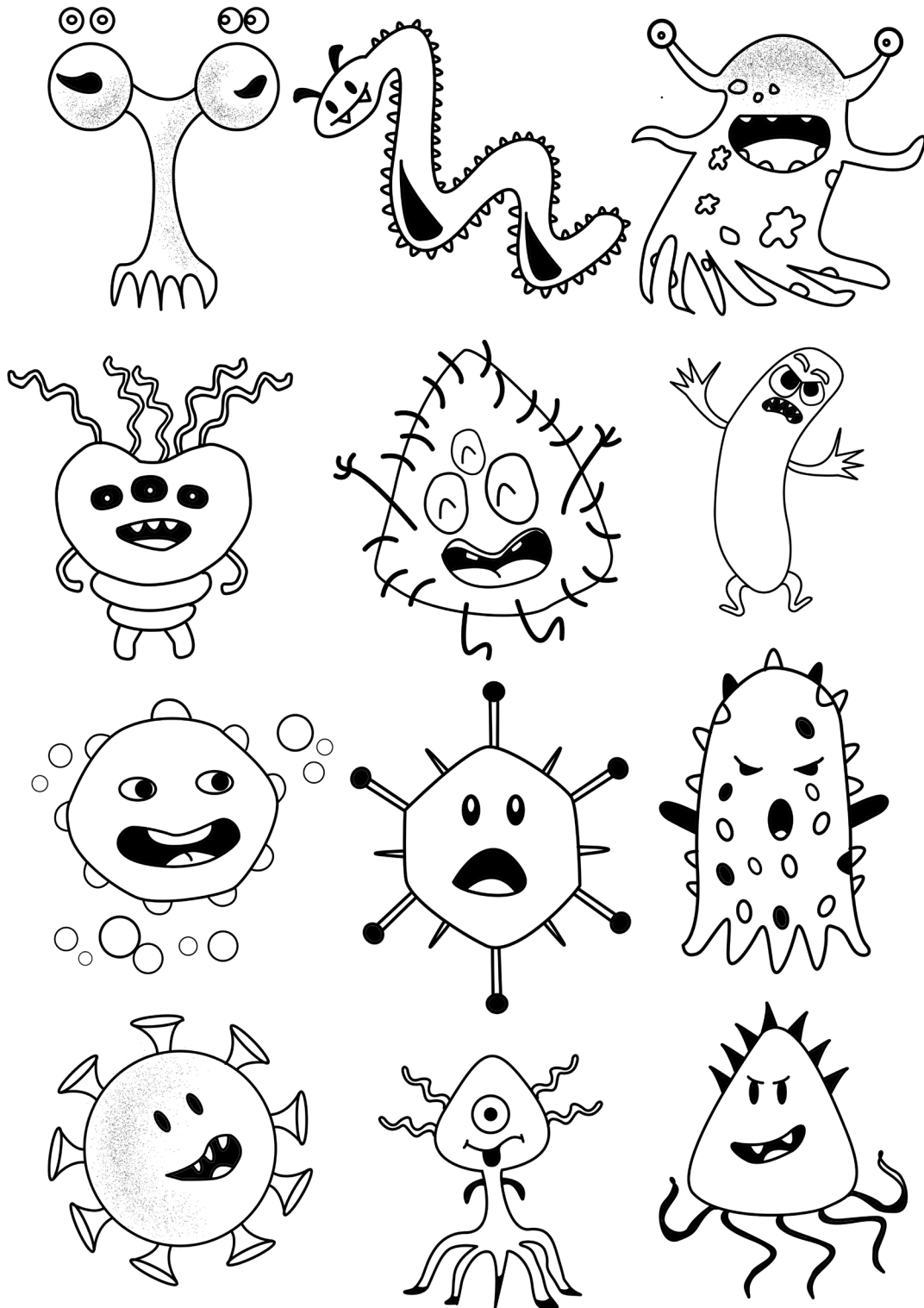


- Of course, you will, - Robbie said. - But you need to follow very important rules. Then all the people on our planet will be able to fight this virus and live the way they used to. Listen carefully and remember everything.

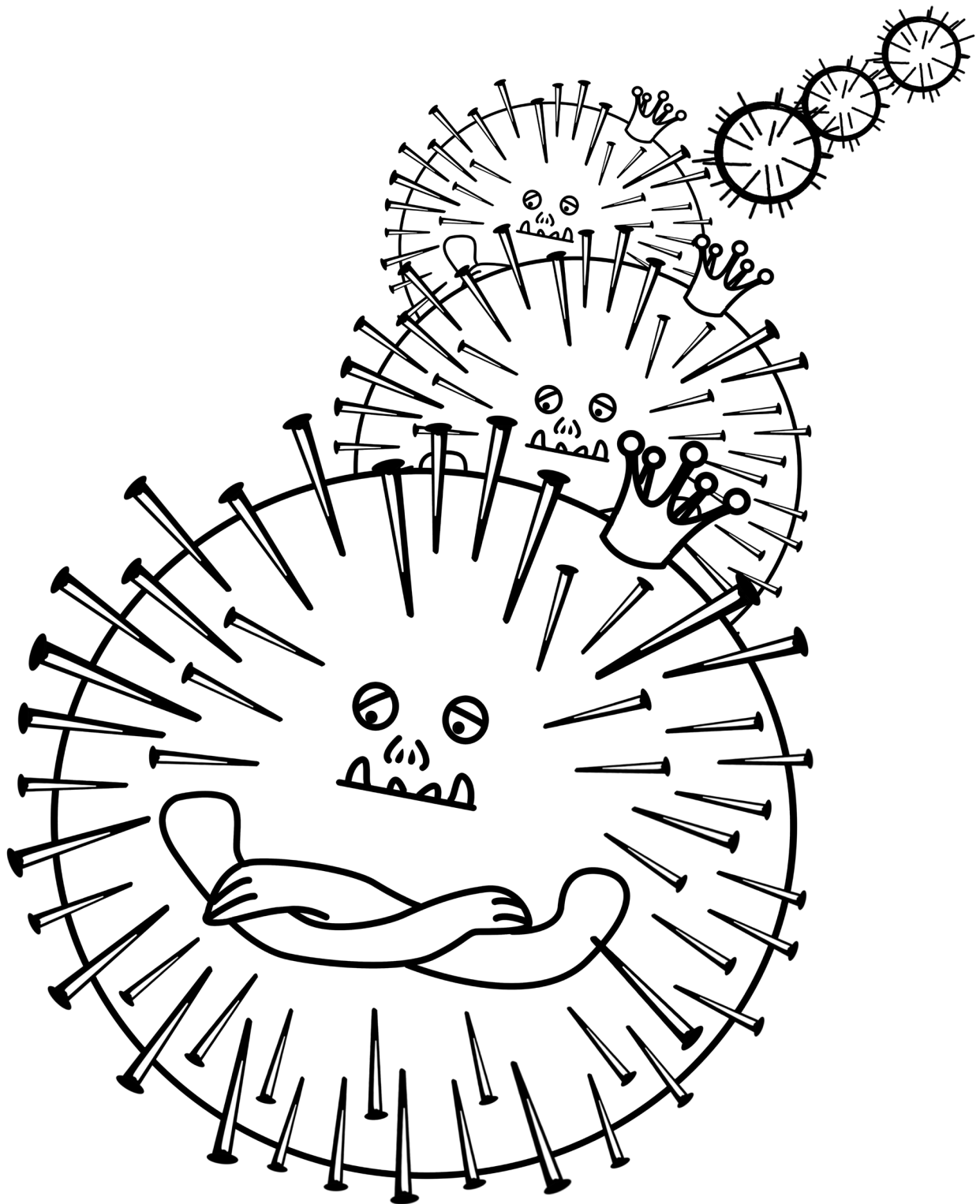


# What are these viruses like?

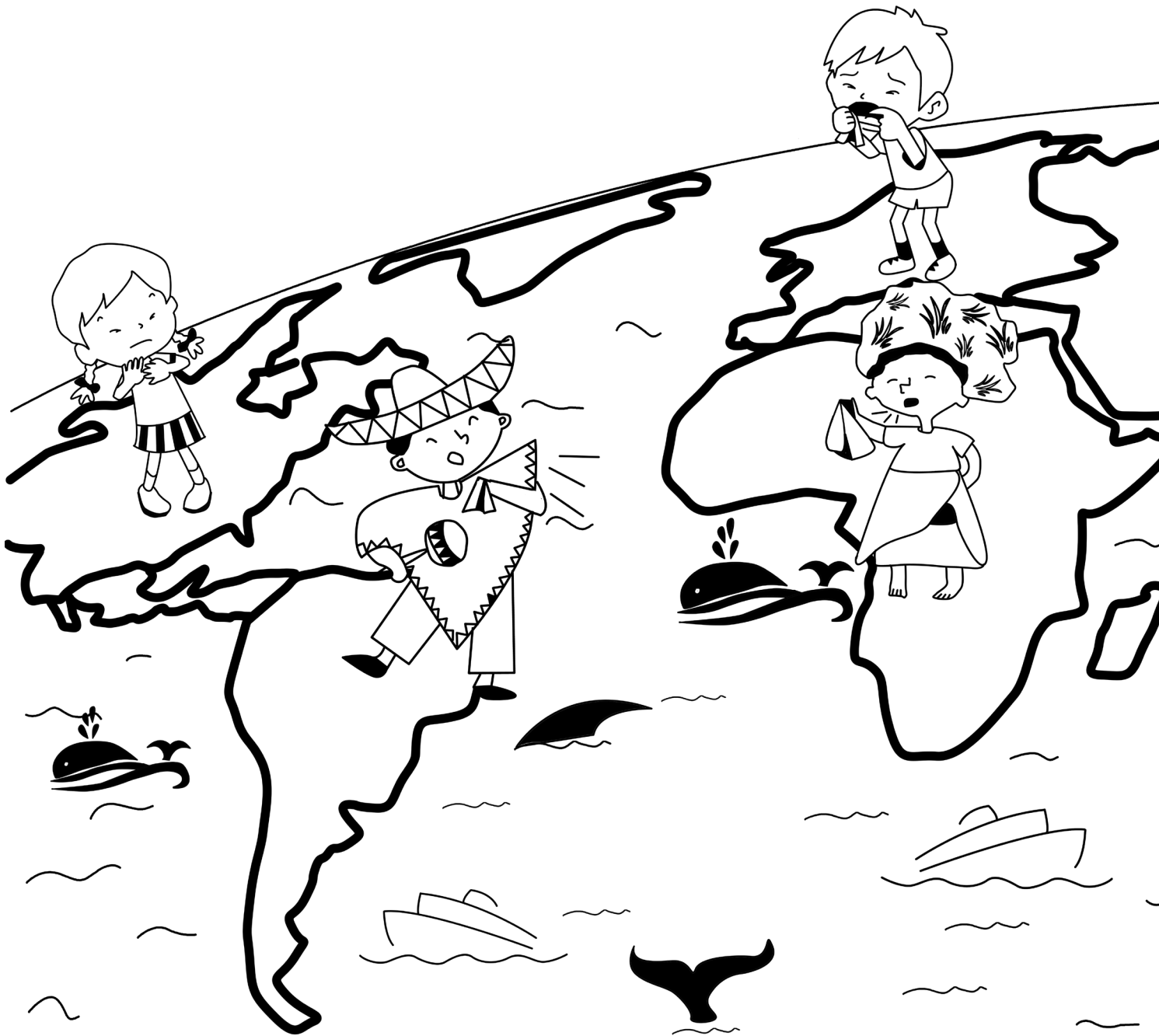
Viruses are tiny microbes. They are so teeny-weeny that you can see them only under a microscope. We are always surrounded by viruses, many of them are friendly but there are viruses that can lead to various diseases. Usually, the body is able to protect itself from them, and most people recover quickly.



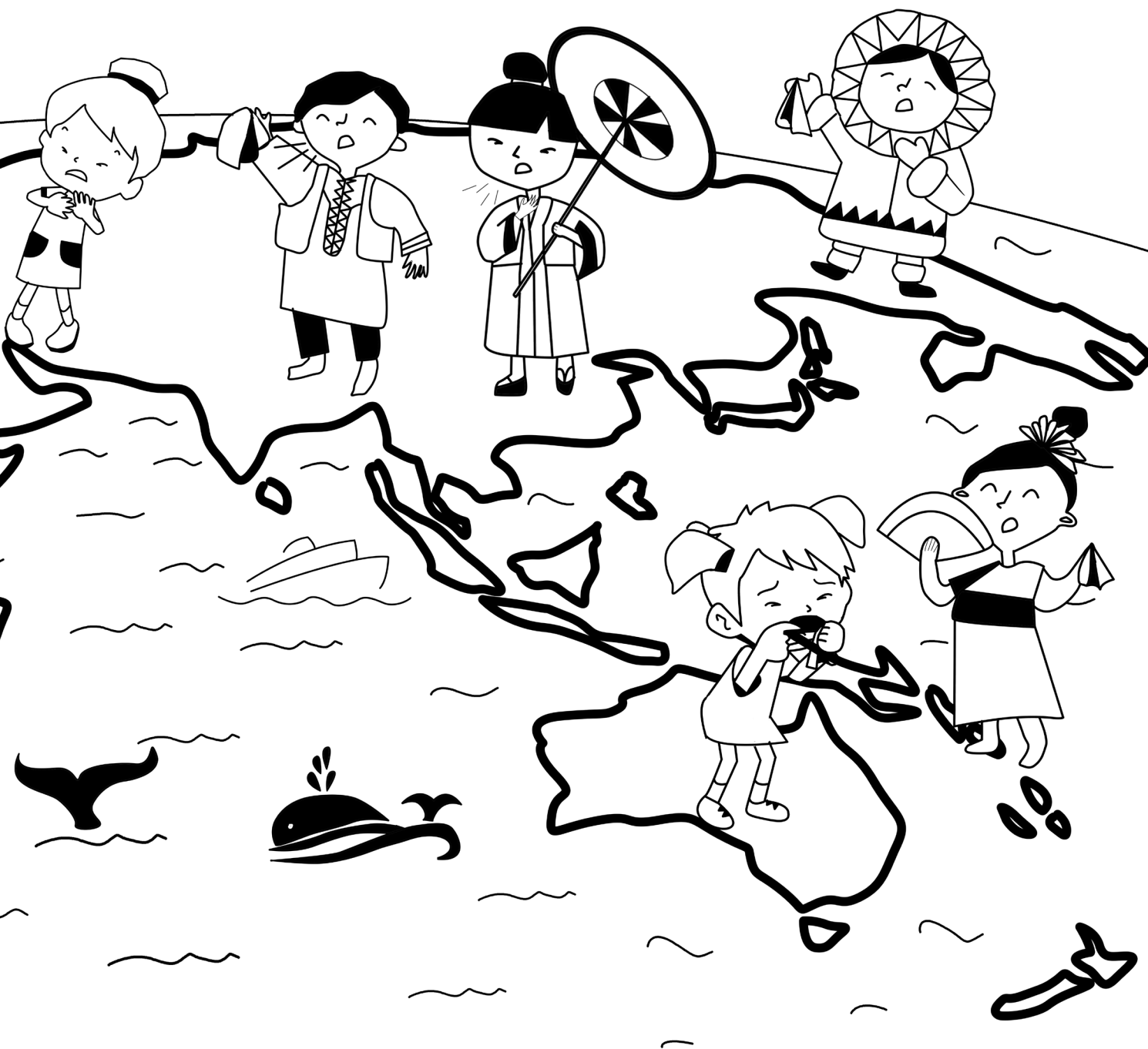
But coronavirus, or **COVID-19**, is a new virus, and doctors still have little information about it. There isn't any treatment or vaccine against it as, for example, there is a vaccine against measles or diphtheria. Although, it affects most people as a common cold, some of them can get much worse symptoms, especially elderly people whose immunity is not as strong as yours. It is therefore very important to slow down the spread of the virus so that scientists have time to find ways to deal with it effectively.



Although many people in the world are already sick, there is good news: a lot depends on you. If you follow simple rules (and remind your parents about them), it will help you and your family not get infected and stay healthy.



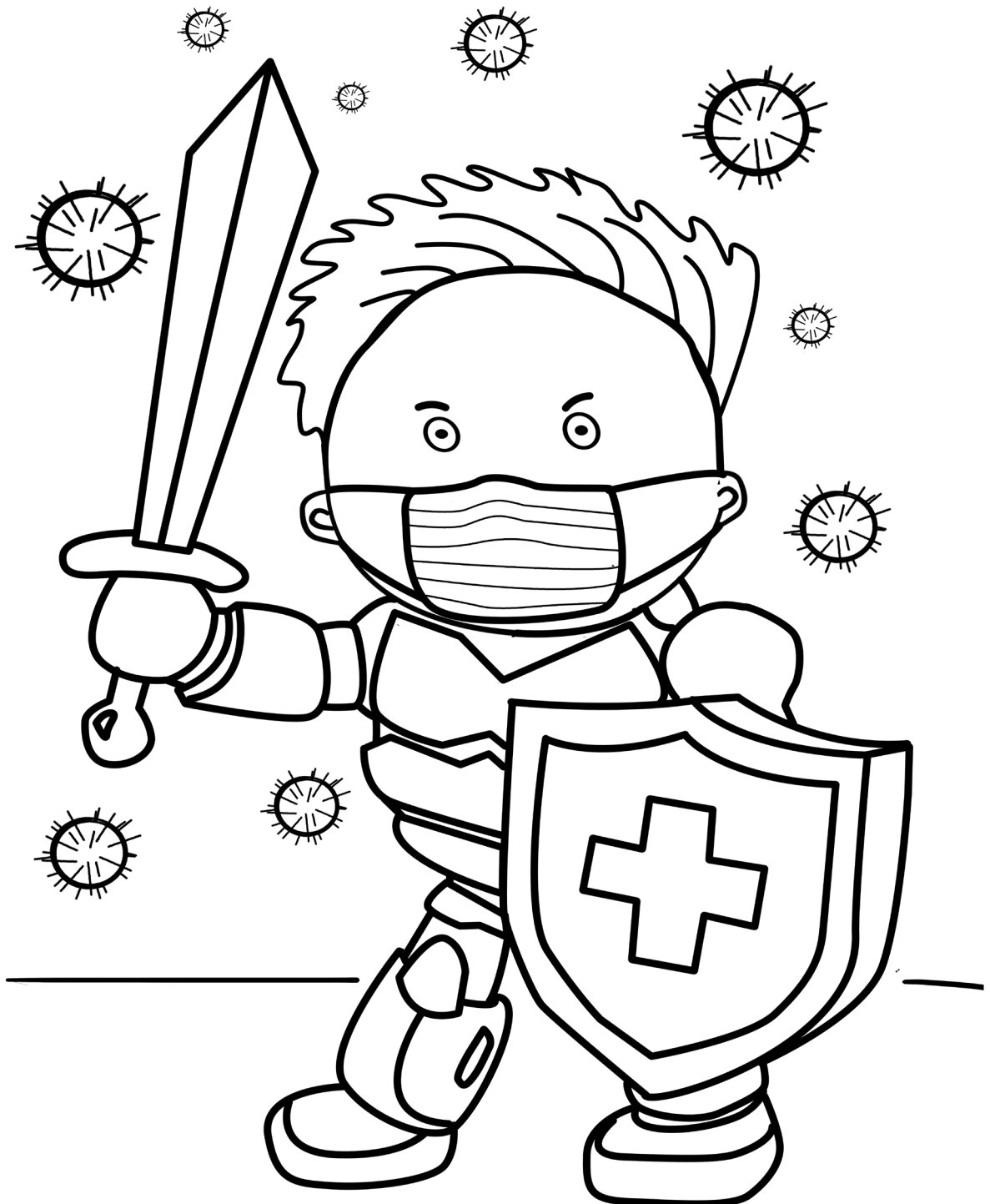
- What are these rules? - Mia asked. - They are probably very difficult...
- Not at all. By the way, you already successfully follow some of them thanks to your parents.

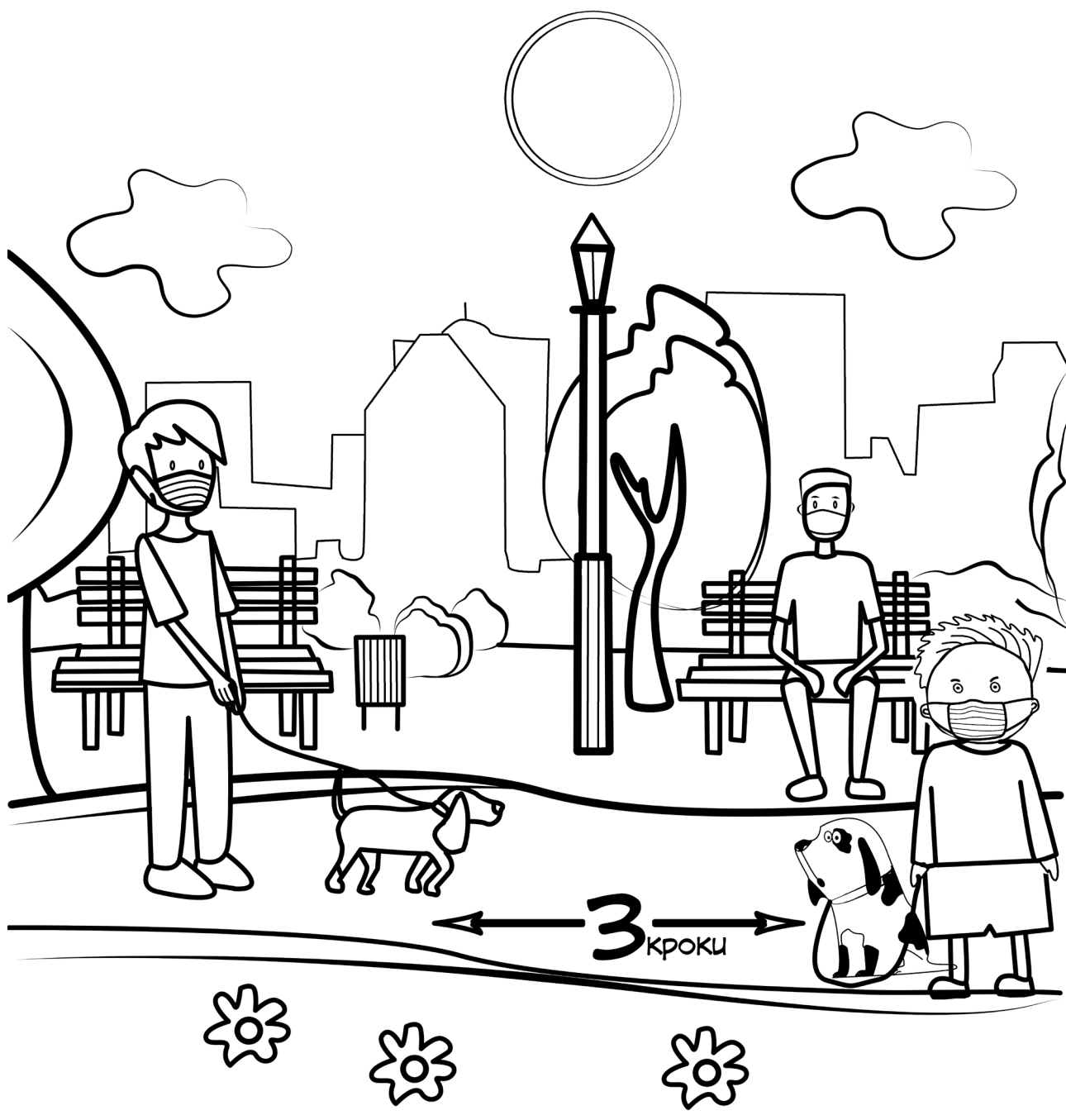




# Three easy rules

**1. Quarantine or self-isolation is very important.** You shouldn't stay in crowded places without a necessity. If you need to be in public places, stay from other people 3 steps away. It's like a vaccine you do without an injection. After all, if you don't communicate with a person who has the coronavirus, then you do not get sick. The virus is also spread through coughing and sneezing, so the ill person must wear a mask not to infect others.



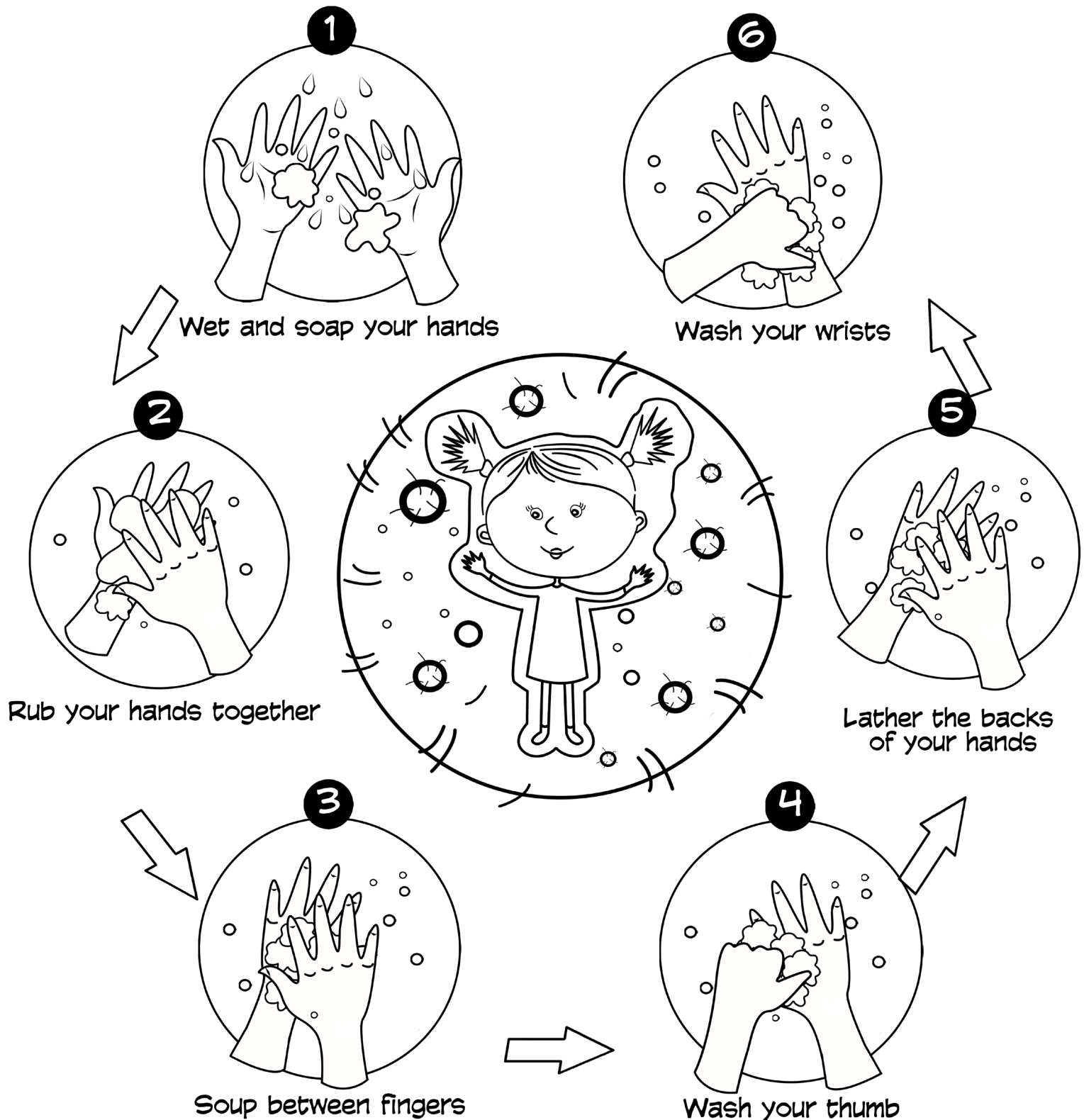


- Does it mean that everyone wearing a mask is sick? – Platon asked surprisingly.

- No, not at all! Just because the virus is new, we do not know exactly what symptoms it causes, so sometimes a person may not even know that he is sick. That is why it's better to wear a mask for everyone, just in case.

**2. Thorough and frequent hand washing will also protect you from the virus.** Wash your hands after the stroll, after the toilet, before your meal, and if your hands get dirty.

Moreover, you should wash your hands at least for 20 seconds - it's like singing «Happy Birthday to you» twice or count out loud to 30.



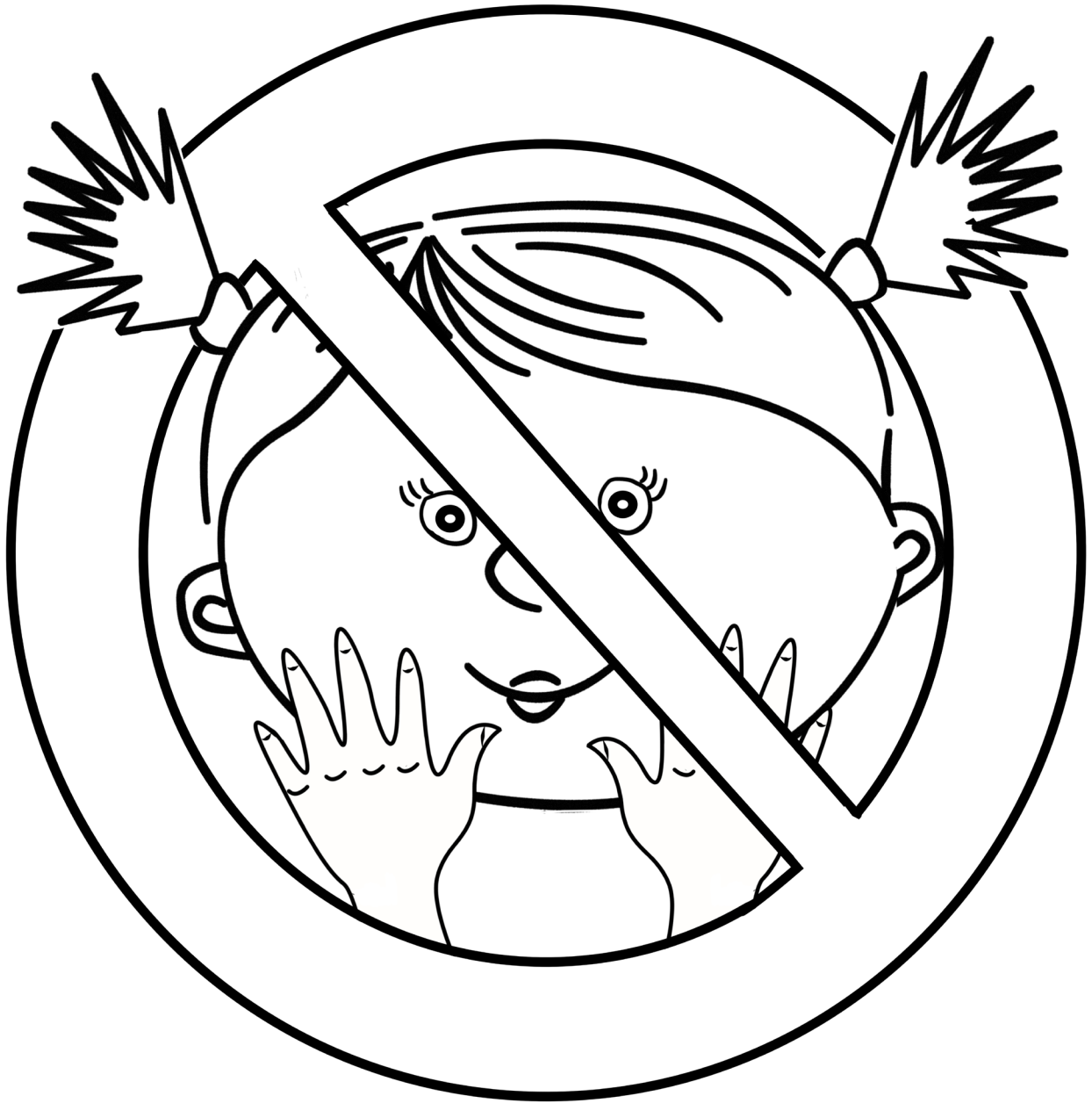


- I like to change the words of the songs, - Mia said excitedly. - I will sing like this:

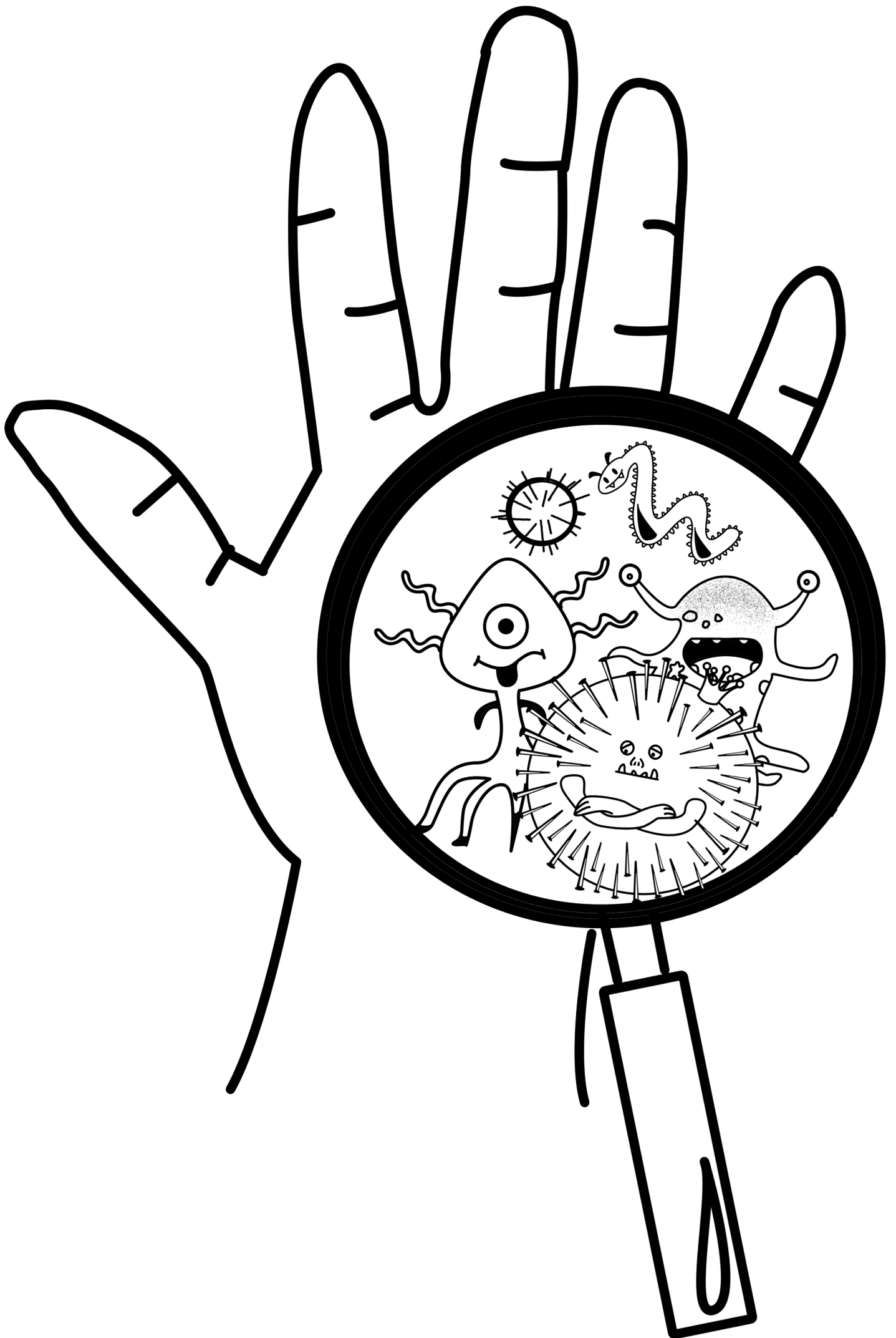
*I'm washing my hands  
I'm washing my hands  
So the microbes don't stick to me  
I'm washing my hands!*

- Amazing! I will also sing this song! - Platon laughed.  
- Don't forget that you should sing it twice! - Robbie reminded.

**3. Do not touch your face with your hands!** The virus can jump from hands to your nose, mouth or eyes and get inside the body to bring its evil plan to life.



**Do not touch  
your FACE!**





That's it!

- Is it all? The rules are easy peasy indeed, - Mia said thoughtfully.

- And if all the people follow these rules of a thumb, will we defeat this Crosspatch in the Crown?

- Yes! Then the quarantine will end and you will return to your usual life again.

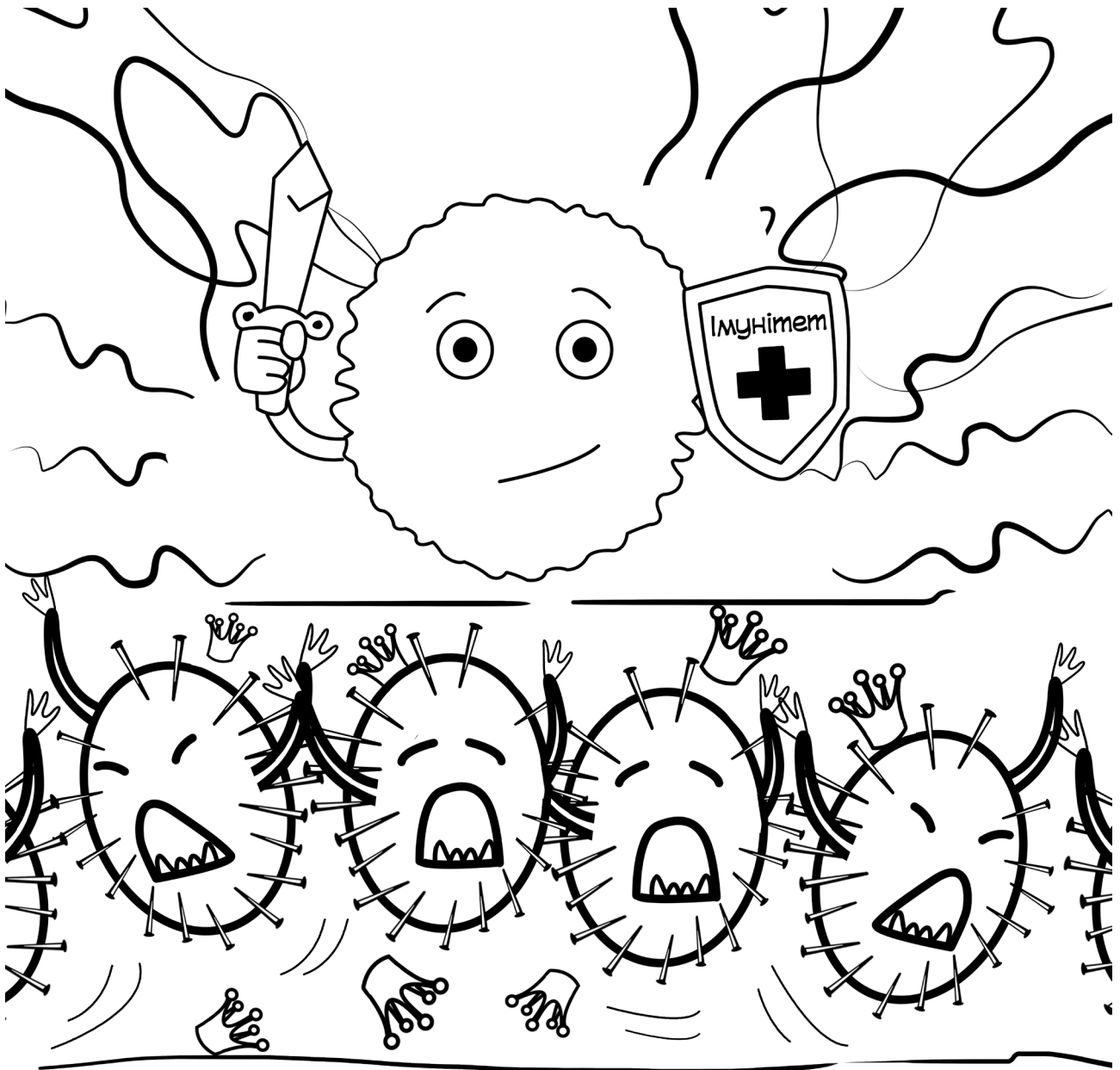




- Thank you, Robbie! Now let's play hospital. I have a feeling that Mia's princess with pink hair has coronavirus!

- Whaaaat? Nooooo way! - Mia shouted.



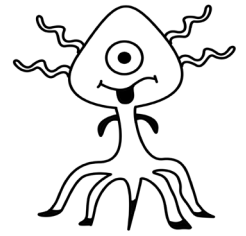
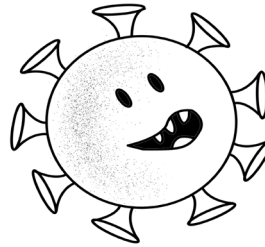
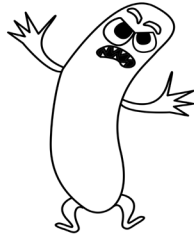
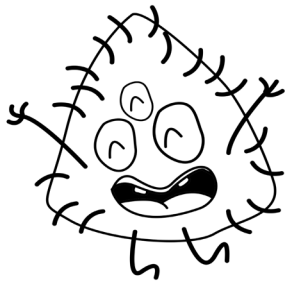
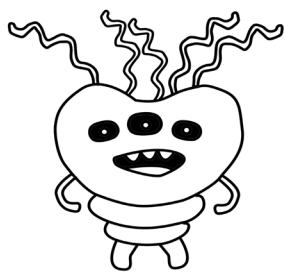


That evening mom neither heard nor saw her kids - they had such a great fun playing with their old toys.

- That's great, - mom smiled to dad who was working on the computer.

- We need to invent over 30 new ways to entertain our kids for the next month.

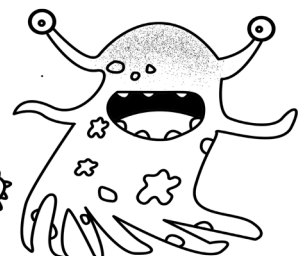
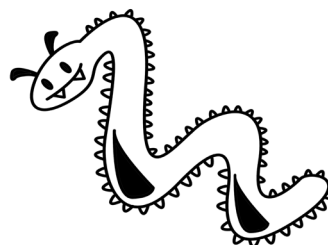
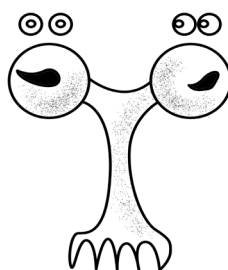
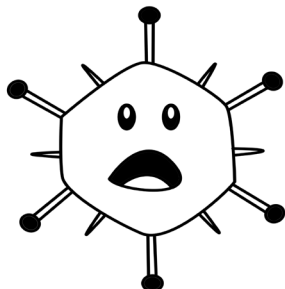
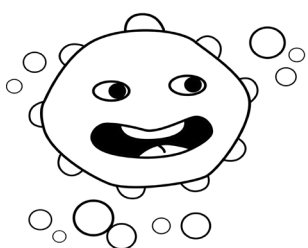
- Don't worry, honey, - dad said to her, - the main thing is that we are all together at home. I am sure everything will be fine.



## A memo for parents

Children respond differently to the disturbing events that are happening right now: someone jokes and enjoys the quarantine as an unplanned weekend, and someone worries that he or his loved ones may get sick or even die. Some children are moody, some become reserved, and others are hyperactive. However, absolutely all children now need support and clarification from their parents. Don't be afraid to talk about this topic and answer kids' questions. Give information relevant to your child's age and distract them from the excessive depth into the topic. It is very important to calm your kids and slip into a positive mind.

It's important to understand that not only the virus is contagious but also the fear. And fear is transmitted to children very quickly. Young kids' slight anxiety can be reduced by common games and creativity as well as laugh-provoking activities. The important things are regime, routine, family traditions and little rituals that repeat on a daily basis to give your kids the sense of security: board games in the evenings, outdoor walks, cooperative general cleaning - find your own activities that will distract the whole family from a painful topic and try to enjoy your time together.





# Other books for kids



The book **«The Adventures of Beep Baby cars (Beep-chyky): Leon Doesn't Want to Go to the playgroup!»** by Halyna Budilova has a therapeutic effect. While playing with stickers and coloring the main characters, kids will be able to feel and express ecologically the full range of emotions common for toddlers during the period of adaptation to the kindergarten. Original songs with easy texts and catchy melodies can be played on the smartphones with a help of QR-scanner.



**«Good night, Sunshine!»** by Halyna Budilova is a book of original personalized lullabies. And it's not just a collection of easy-to-sing texts and incredibly gentle illustrations, but also audio content included into the book: every mommy can listen to lullabies on the YouTube channel using QR codes in the book. All the lullabies are personalized and therapeutic - with their help you can program your baby to recover from illness, bad temper, make it relax after emotionally charged day, fight its fears, etc. The author's mission is to engage modern mothers to singing and the creative process of creating lullabies, because there is nothing more magical than mother's voice and mother's love.



**«The Secret Life of Santa Claus»** by Halyna Budilova is a versified story of family values, of mutual support, of not having to be perfect in order to be loved. And it is not necessary to be a magician to make miracles. After all, this power is within each of us. On the eve of New Year's holidays, Santa Claus has a hard time! There are so many things to do: feed the reindeer, read the letters from children, prepare the presents, pack everything, load into a sleigh, correct mistakes in addresses... Do you think he can manage everything all by himself? No way! He is a simple grandpa: a bit lazy sometimes, such a sweet tooth and a real slowpoke, to be honest! But do not worry; Santa Claus has a family to support him!



# Our team



**Halyna Budilova** – author, journalist, translator and mom of two wonderful boys



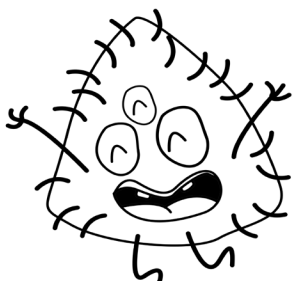
**Olga Renyova** – illustrator



**Bogdana Telychuk** – lay-out designer

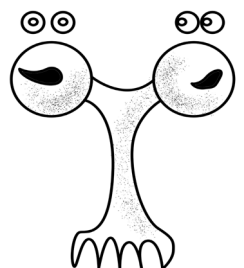


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**Halyna Budilova**, the author of the book:

*«'Robbie and Crosspatch in Crown' is both a therapeutic tale and a practical coloring book that will help explain to children what is happening on the planet now and make quarantine easier for kids. The purpose of my book is to reduce anxiety and remind the safety rules that must be followed to avoid becoming ill.»*