

## What to do today

*IMPORTANT Parent or Carer – Read this page with your child and check that you are happy with what they have to do and any weblinks or use of internet.*

### 1. Watch a poetry performance again

- Watch the performance of ‘The Great Realisation’, following the words as you do.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nw5KQMXDiM4&t=5s>

- Use the *Sorting Table* to note down all the positive and negative images and ideas that you can find in this poem. Can you find some ideas that are a mix of positive and negative?

### 2. Think about a possible future

- Think about how you would like the future for the world to be.
- Try to think of six hopes. Record them with words and pictures on *What kind of future?*

### 3. Write a persuasive letter

- Plan a letter to your MP about the future that you would like for the world, using the *Planning Guide*.
- Carefully write your letter. You can find out your MP and their address here: <https://members.parliament.uk/FindYourMP>

*Well done. Show your letter to a grown-up. Explain your ideas to them. You could send your letter to your MP, if you would like to.*

### Try the Fun-Time Extra

Interview other people about their six hopes for the future of the world. Are there any you share? What could you do to help them to happen?

## The Great Realisation

*Tell me the one about the virus again  
Then, I'll go to bed*

But my boy you're growing weary,  
sleepy thoughts about your head

*Please that one is my favourite  
I promise, just once more*

Okay, snuggle down my boy  
though I know you know full well  
the story starts before then  
in a world I once would dwell.

It was a world of waste and wonder  
of poverty and plenty  
back before we understood  
why hindsight's 2020.

You see the people came up with  
companies  
to trade across all lands  
but they swelled and got much bigger  
than we ever could have planned.

We'd always had our wants  
but now it got so quick  
you could have anything you dreamed of  
in a day and with a click.

We noticed families that stopped talking  
that's not to say they never spoke  
but the meaning must have melted  
and the work-life balance broke.



And the children's eyes grew square  
and every toddler had a phone,  
they filtered out the imperfections  
but amidst the noise; they felt alone.

and every day the skies grew thicker  
till we couldn't see the stars  
so we flew in planes to find them  
while down below we filled our cars.

we'd drive around all day in circles  
we'd forgotten how to run  
we swapped the grass for tarmac  
Shrunk the parks till there were none.

we filled the sea with plastic  
because our waste was never capped  
until each day when you went fishing  
you'd pull them out already wrapped

and while we drank, smoked and  
gambled  
our leaders taught us why  
it's best to not upset the lobbies  
or convenient to die.

but then in 2020  
a new virus came our way  
the governments reacted  
and told us all to hide away.

But while we all were hidden  
amidst the fear and all the while  
people dusted off their instincts  
they remembered how to smile.

they started clapping to say thank you  
and calling up their mums  
and while the car keys gathered dust  
they would look forward to their runs.

and with the skies less full of voyagers  
the earth began to breathe  
and the beaches bore new wildlife  
that scuttled off into the seas.

some people started dancing  
some were singing, some were baking  
we'd grown so used to bad news  
but some good news was in the making.

and so when we found the cure  
and were allowed to go outside  
we all preferred the world we found  
to the one we'd left behind

old habits became extinct  
and they made way for the new  
and every simple act of kindness  
was now given its due.

*but why did it take a virus  
to bring the people back together?*  
sometimes you've got to get sick my boy  
before you start feeling better

now lie down and dream of tomorrow  
and all the things that we can do  
and who knows if you dream hard enough  
maybe some of them will come true

we now call it the great realization  
and yes since then there have been many  
but that's the story of how it started  
and why hindsight's 2020.

*By Tom Roberts*

## Sorting Table

Negatives	Uncertain	Positives
<p data-bbox="203 331 629 376"><i>Families stopped talking</i></p> <p data-bbox="190 437 647 481"><i>Filled the seas with plastic</i></p>	<p data-bbox="846 331 1361 376"><i>A world of waste and wonder</i></p>	<p data-bbox="1547 331 2027 376"><i>The earth began to breathe</i></p>

## What kind of future?


# Planning Guide

Who? What? Why? When? Where?

Title: I am arguing that

**Intro**

**My first point...**

Give ideas which support your points.

**My second point...**

**My last point...**

**In conclusion...**

Remind your reader what you have been persuading them to do

# Letter to MP



A large rectangular area with horizontal lines, intended for writing a letter. The area is framed by a decorative border consisting of a repeating orange and black zigzag pattern.