



Online Game for Covid-19

Preeti Lata



Image credits: <https://i1.wp.com/indiaeducationdiary.in/>

EVEN though the COVID-19 pandemic has put life under lockdowns, creativity cannot be locked in any way. This is the time when everyone is trying to keep themselves busy, creative and adapting to the new normal as well. One such example is 9-year-old Ayush Sankaran who is busy in developing various apps and online games based on COVID-19. He is a student of Class IV in Billabong High International School, Malad. He has been following his coding hobby in the period of lockdown and takes part in online competitions wherever he gets an opportunity to portray his talent.

Keeping in mind the safety precautions like social distancing during these days of the pandemic, he has come up with an innovative video game — “Wrath of the Virus”, in which there is a blue emoji representing the player, tilting of the phone is required to run away from the infected people around. There is a person who has his face covered with a mask because of which nothing happens to him. By doing so he spreads the message of wearing a mask to protect from COVID-19.

The young innovator also took part in a game development contest titled “Fight against COVID”, organised by iRobokid in which he was selected among the top three winning entries. He won an Arduino starter kit and a complete course in which he can learn coding using Arduino.

Just before the lockdown, Ayush also won the MIT Inventor award for the development of a quiz-game app, “World of Magic”, in the category of app developers under 12 years.

Ayush told *India Education Diary* that, “Covid-19 pandemic prevalent currently has impacted most of the competitive exams like Olympiads, Spell Bee and many others, but this has also brought in newer avenues to continue the learning process as many online learning platforms have opened up access to their entire resources which are otherwise expensive to access. There are few online platforms which conduct competitive exams in which he participates.”

Contributed by Ms Preeti Lata, *Science Reporter*, CSIR-NISCAIR, New Delhi