How are Singaporean children experiencing the circuit breaker period, when workplaces and schools are closed and physical transmission of the coronavirus is cut? With an epidemic hitting over 90% of the school population, how are children and their parents managing this period of difficulty? And what can the government do to make this period more bearable for all concerned?

Several factors make a child’s experience during this period unique. Children have no control over their lives, and they are often at the mercy of their parents. Children cannot escape their parents’ or caregivers’ schedules and routines, and their parents and caregivers are often exhausted by the demands of caring for them. Children’s cognitive, emotional, and social development can be affected by this period, and these factors can have long-lasting effects on their development.

In this report, we dive into the experiences of children during the circuit breaker period, with a focus on how they are coping and what changes they are seeing in their everyday lives. We also explore how parents and caregivers are handling the situation, and what support they are receiving.

INSIGHTS

Children are learning new skills

Many children are learning new skills and developing new hobbies during the circuit breaker period. Some are learning to cook, while others are exploring new interests such as painting or crafts. Children are also using this time to read and revisit old hobbies, such as playing musical instruments or learning a new language.

Children are also using this period to explore new interests. Some are learning to code, while others are exploring new hobbies such as knitting or gardening. Children are also using this time to revisit old hobbies, such as playing musical instruments or learning a new language.

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