



# What is Social Distancing?

*An At-Home STEM Lesson Plan Crafted by BGCharlem STEM Specialist Chaelee Dalton*



Image From [LAist](#)

This week, we build upon previous lessons regarding healthy habits and preventing Coronavirus. We are starting a new topic: social distancing. In this lesson, we define *social distancing* and learn about why social distancing is important during an epidemic. Next week's lesson will be focused on measuring a safe distance: six feet.

If your child cannot read, read the text out loud to them. Ask them the questions and have them respond and/ or solve on a separate sheet of paper. If you child can read, simply give them the second page of this handout and have them read the text out loud or in their head.

**Materials:** Blank paper, pen or pencil, internet access/YouTube

**Addresses Common Core Standards:**

CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.3.1

**Addresses NGSS Standards:**

2-PS1-1

3-LS4-3

5-PS1-1

5-PS1-4



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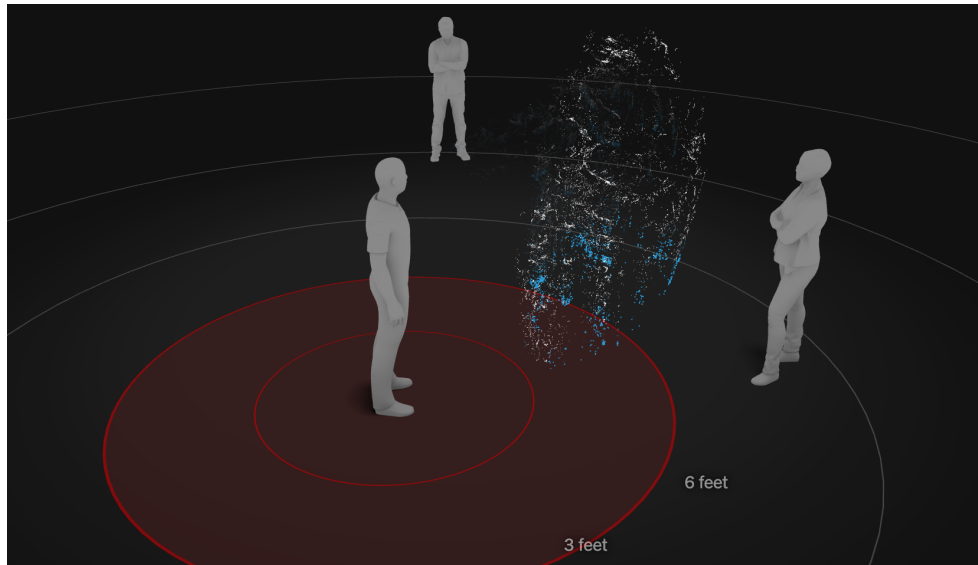


Image from the [New York Times](#)

**Look at this image. What do you observe? What do you think the white and blue cloud is?**

**On a separate piece of paper, write down your *hypothesis*:**

I think the white and blue cloud is \_\_\_\_\_.

The image above is a screenshot from a simulation of a cough by the person in the center. Sickesses, like the flu or Coronavirus, are usually spread by *particles*, or very small droplets, in the air. If someone is sick, they can share their germs by coughing, sneezing, or breathing near someone healthy. If the healthy person breathes in these droplets, they have a higher chance of getting sick.

Doctors and other health care workers recommend that people *social distance* to prevent sickness from spreading.

*Social distancing* means staying a safe distance away from other people to prevent the spread of illnesses like Coronavirus. Doctors recommend that we stand *6 feet away* from people who we do *not* live with to protect our and their health. This is because when we breathe, we breathe out air up to 6 feet away from us. If we are closer than six feet from a person, then they can breathe in the air we breathe out.

**Now, watch [this video](#) to learn more.**

**On a separate piece of paper, write down why social distancing is important.**

Social distancing is important because \_\_\_\_\_.



**If you “social distance” from other people, why is handwashing important?**

I think handwashing is important even if you social distance yourself from other people because \_\_\_\_\_.

**Why do you think it is okay to *not* social distance from the people you live with?**

I think it is okay to *not* social distance from the people I live with because \_\_\_\_\_.

**We will *confirm* or *deny* these hypotheses in the next lesson!**