Carol Gray Social Stories for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders

My Story About Pandemics and the Coronavirus - Carol Gray

Vision

Version 1.0

Revision History

| **Date** | **Version** | **Description** | **Author** |
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| 30th September 2021 | 1.0 | Covid-19 Infographic My Story About Pandemics and the Coronavirus - Carol Gray | Liz Conway |
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Vision

# Introduction

The purpose of this document is to collect, analyse, and define high-level needs and features of presenting information to children, teens and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders regarding the Covid-19 pandemic. It is taking the official covid.19 pdf guide by Carol Gray and animating the message. Often children who present with the ASD diagnosis may be non-verbal and require a multi-sensory approach to communication. The more multisensory the “message” the better the communication outcome and the successful interpretation of the message.

A Social story is a short, personalised story written in a dedicated and specific style and format.This infographic explores how to contextualise and convert the static information into a fully multi-sensory infographic to help children with special needs to understand the covid-19 pandemic. It is to support children, teens, and adults with special needs to understand the message in a hopeful and meaningful way.

It focuses on the capabilities needed by the stakeholders and target users, and why these needs exist. The details of how “My Story About Pandemics and the Coronavirus - Carol Gray” fulfils these needs are detailed throughout this document. The purpose of the introduction is to provide an overview of the entire document. It includes the purpose, scope, definitions, acronyms, abbreviations, references and overview of this Vision document.

## Purpose

To give a high-level overview of this new approach to a digital message and gather the requirements. To provide an early synchronisation between Project Manager/Senior Developer Daisy McGirr and development organisation on :

* High level requirements
* Business issues
* Stakeholder participation

## Scope

The project provides online learning for children with ASD who wish to become more informed regarding the Covid-19 pandemic.

## Definitions, Acronyms, and Abbreviations

**My Covid Story (**My Story About Pandemics and the Coronavirus - Carol Gray)**-**  will be the name of the new infographic used by students who are on the ASD spectrum and as a visual guide for parents to navigate broad understanding across what is a relevant and emotive topic. It hopes to bridge the gap within the current covid-19 information guidelines. It will be used as an opportunity to solidify concepts, understanding and offer a positive message of hope and resilience to a broad audience.

## References

My Story About Pandemics and the Coronavirus - Carol Gray is a dedicated resource used by a teacher of special needs for the past 30 years to help convey learning and meaning of information in a very specific style and format that helps people with ASD to understand the world around them. What can be taken for granted through ordinary channels of communication and non-verbal body language can be difficult to decipher for neurotypical people.

It can be a minefield for people who struggle with the daily nuances of communication and need a reference and guide to navigate proper interpretation of the written and unspoken word. The aim is to evoke a neural response and consequently influence behaviour and outcome.

## Overview

This vision document is a high-level view of what the new infographic will entail. How it will be used and what it will accomplish.

Following this introductory section the main areas in this vision document and their corresponding sections are :

1. Technical

* Feature List (section 5)

1. Business

* Product Positioning (section 2)
* Product Overview (section 4)

1. Stakeholder Participation

* Stakeholder Profiles (section 3)

# Positioning

## Business Opportunity

Free resource with teacher support during Covid-19 pandemic.

## Problem Statement

We have been submerged into daily statistics, information overload and startling images engulfing our world with the covid-19 pandemic. Selective, notable sources of information for people on the spectrum is important in both its service and the delivery of its message. The Carol Gray short stories are a proven and important medium for people with Autism to learn about the world around them. It helps them to decipher information that would otherwise be over-stimulating and creating a sensory overload. Social short stories help people to navigate the perilous and often intrusive overload of disturbing information. Social short stories aid understanding, target a user profile and help with the nuances that non-verbal communication can display.

A picture is worth a “thousand words” and a multisensory approach takes that message and helps create that neural connection by engaging as many senses as possible. The more the senses are engaged the deeper the meaning and the lasting effect. Communication flows and this allows people to absorb, understand and make sense of the world around them that is both visually appealing and non-threatening. Innovative approaches to messaging and to learning help us understand the subliminal messages that can be automatically invoked in atypical individuals. Neurotypical individuals require deliberate, innovative approaches to aid understanding and help them navigate the world we inhabit. The more appealing the stimuli the easier it is to absorb its message producing lasting effect both in thought and behaviour.

| The problem of | Covid-19 misinformation and how to correctly interpret communication |
| --- | --- |
| affects | Children, teens, young adults on the spectrum |
| the impact of which is | A picture is worth a “thousand words” and needs to be given in a gentle thoughtful manner |
| a successful solution would be | Understand the learning profile of individuals and present information in a multi-sensory context |

## 

## Product Position Statement

An overall statement summarizing, at the highest level, the unique position the product intends to fill in the marketplace.

| For | Anyone who finds the nuances of communication difficult and hard to interpret |
| --- | --- |
| Who | Needs to deliver a message in a very positive light |
| The (product name) | Carol Gray Social Stories for children with Autism Spectrum Disorders - My Covid-19 Social Story |
| That | Captures learning from an animated message |
| Unlike | No application or practice like this is being done that is not for lucrative gain |
| Our product | Captures, documents and illustrates how to deliver messages using animation in a multisensory manner |

# Stakeholder and User Descriptions

The stakeholders are children wishing to understand the world around them.. It is to help navigate the minefield of endless information and offer a multisensory approach to understand the written word. Senior Software Developer and Project Manager: Daisy McGirr will be acting as mentor throughout this project.

## Stakeholder Summary

There are a number of stakeholders with an interest in the development and not all of them are end users.

| **Name** | **Description** | **Responsibilities** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Daisy McGirr | Project Manager | * Ensures that all requirements are adhered to * Supports and mentors the creation of the Carol Gray Social Story of Covid-19 |

## User Summary

| **Name** | **Description** | **Responsibilities** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| children, teens, young adults | 8 years old and upwards | User’s Key responsibilities:   * Use site as a resource for learning |

## 

## User Environment

* laptop or mobile device

## Key Stakeholder or User Needs

• Study resource.

• A means to supplement mainstream education during a pandemic.

• Access to relevant and respectful information that is given in a caring and deliberate manner

# Product Overview

• Product perspective – Assist learning and understand of the world around them

• Access to this infographic through laptop, tablet, mobile phone

## Product Perspective

The infographic is independent and totally self-contained.

## Summary of Capabilities

The major benefits and features the product will provide.

**Table 4-1 Customer Support System**

| **Customer Benefit** | **Supporting Features** |
| --- | --- |
| Learn about the coronovirus. | Access to numerous videos and other learning materials. |
| Comprehensive learning and how to cope | A separate section for each topic in the infographic |
| Test students’ learning.. | A vessel for shared communication between parent and child |

# 

# Product Features

## Existing features

None. This is version 1.0 of the Carol Gray Social Story - Covid-19.

## Features for the current project

### Give access to learning material

Students can view videos and other learning material for every topic within the infographic

# Applicable Standards

GDPR

The Carol Gray Social Story infographic must comply with GDPR (General Data Protection Regulation).

Furthermore, no personal, identifying information will be kept on the app or device.