



KAMALA *and* MAYA'S
BIG IDEA

My book of
big ideas

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

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Dear Reader,

Many years ago, two sisters from California had a big idea to turn the unused courtyard of their apartment building into a children's play area.

Those two sisters were my mom, Maya Harris, and aunt, Kamala Harris. This story is one I heard growing up, and it inspired my first book, *Kamala and Maya's Big Idea*, on shelves now from HarperCollins.

We all have big ideas inside us, and there are different ways to turn them into reality. In the book, and in the tradition of so many changemakers before them, Kamala and Maya start their effort with a letter.

I hope these letter writing activities encourage young readers to pursue their big ideas.

- Your Big Idea: to anyone, about anything!
- Thank healthcare workers: mail them to your local hospitals!
- Thank frontline workers: mail them to helpers in your community!

While we're all spending more time at home, we can still make our voices heard, and send our ideas out into the world.

I can't wait to see what you come up with, and I hope you share them with #MyBigIdea!

Love,
Meena



Let's get started!



These questions will help you to start thinking about your Big Idea. Use your imagination, problem solving skills, and artistic talents to develop your Big Idea.

Then, turn that idea into action.

Later, we'll send a letter to someone who should know about your Big Idea and could help make it a reality.



Let's roll up our sleeves and get to work!



A problem I've noticed is...

.....

.....

.....

DRAW A PICTURE!

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin purple border, intended for drawing a picture related to the problem noticed.

I think this is a problem because...

.....

.....

DRAW A PICTURE!

I've done research on this topic and learned that...



.....

.....

DRAW A PICTURE!

.....

.....

A solution to this problem could be...

DRAW A PICTURE!

But we're better off when we work together! We need help from...

DRAW A PICTURE!



Solving this problem will take resources. Sometimes that's a budget, sometimes it's volunteers. Or both! We need...

DRAW A PICTURE!



It's always helpful to set deadlines for projects. Here are ours:

DRAW A PICTURE!



It's time to take our idea out into the world. I'm going to send a letter to...

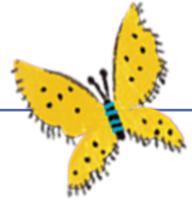
.....

.....

DRAW A PICTURE!



MY BIG IDEA LETTER



Date: _____

Dear _____,

My name is _____, I am _____ years old, and I am writing to you because I have a big idea!

I have noticed that: _____ . This made me feel _____ ,
(PROBLEM) (EMOTION)

because _____ .
(REASON)

My big idea is to _____ .
(SOLUTION)

I am asking for your help. To make my big idea a reality, we need:

#1 _____
(FUNDING)

#2 _____
(SUPPLIES)

#3 _____
(HELPERS)

I hope to have your support, and I look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)



MY HOSPITAL LETTER

Dear doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers at _____.
(NAME OF HOSPITAL)

My name is _____ and I am _____ years old.

I know that you are working hard to protect us, spending time away from your own family. I want to say thank you for _____
(WHAT DOCTORS/NURSES/HOSPITAL WORKERS ARE DOING)

Right now, I am doing my best to stay inside. Currently, I'm at home with _____
(MEMBERS OF YOUR FAMILY)

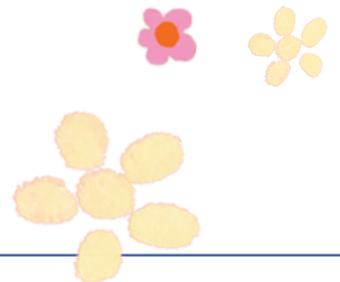
We have been spending our time _____
(YOUR FAVORITE HOME ACTIVITIES)

_____. I'll continue to stay home so that you can stay safe.

Thank you again for all you do to keep us healthy!

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)



MY FRONTLINE WORKERS LETTER

Dear _____,
(POSTAL CARRIER/GROCERS/PHARMACISTS/GARBAGE COLLECTORS/FARMWORKERS)

My name is _____, I am _____ years old.

I am writing to say thank you for _____
(WHAT THOSE WORKERS ARE DOING DURING THIS TIME)

_____. Without your hard work, we would not

have _____. I know that we are able to stay
(WHAT THESE WORKERS PROVIDE)

safe inside because you are working hard to make it possible.

I've been finding new things to do at home, like _____.
(NEW ACTIVITY YOU HAVE TRIED)

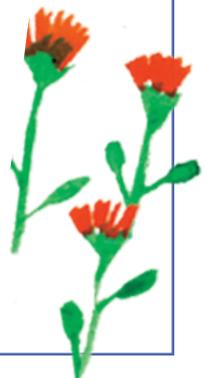
My family and I will continue to stay home to keep you and others safe.

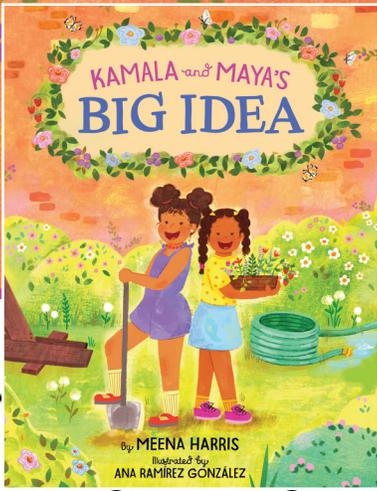
I also wanted to share that _____.
(ANYTHING YOU WANT TO TELL WORKERS)

I know that we are all in this together. Thank you for all you do!

Sincerely,

(YOUR NAME)





KAMALA and MAYA'S BIG IDEA

COLORING PAGE

