

n orange T. rex lies on its side at the exact spot on Skyler and Sofia lost interest in it. Nearby, action figures with missing limbs lie face down on the ground only feet away from the small plastic folding table littered with penfilled with past assignments and a school-issued Chromebook right in the middle.

will stare at the dim screen from the struggle from multiple perspectives. leather ottoman bench tucked under the lip of the white makeshift desk. To his right, his cousin Linda Huynh acts As a single mother of two, Aylin has It's a role she reluctantly accepted along with Skyler's uncle, Vanchhoeng, bedroom. He'll have to battle through traffic speeding past the living room in the virtual classroom. windows and, of course, his restless She will run and scream through the looks like in 2020.

In homes all across Wisconsin, kids are done, they have a cup of milk some version of this scene plays out while their mom heads to the nail the wooden floor where every school day to varying degrees of salon to start her 8-hour work day. success and frustration. Many school districts opted to start the fall semester online or with a hybrid model, giving Shortly after Aylin leaves, Linda arrives For the next few hours, Skyler is my older sister, so I see and hear this

8:45 a.m.

as his tutor behind a cloth face mask to be up at 7:30 a.m. every school day she sewed after months of boredom. to get her kids ready for their Zoom For the first part of the day, Skyler who is making the best of his freshan extra 30 minutes before she makes from his teacher before reading indeman year of high school in an adjacent sure they brush their teeth and change pendently for 20 minutes. His current Linda gets through the constant noise of running water, normal school day — so no pajamas trated "Doctor Strange: Mystery of

kindergarten student and niece, Sofia. ing the chaos of two separate Zoom reading assignments that range from house to pass the hours until it's her Chromebooks, at the exact same time. with sticky notes to writing plot sumtime to learn. This is what a classroom She wishes there was more time to maries to recording videos where he part of his ELA lesson. run from one to the other. Once the describes the book.

9:40 a.m.

parents the option of in-person or to assume the role of Skyler's tutor and virtual classes. This choice, however Sofia's babysitter. Normally, Linda cils, an assortment of crumpled paper accommodating it might appear on would only babysit on occasion. But in paper, is often not as simple as it might a pandemic, family roles are redefined sound for many families like Aylin and those who are capable, though Sok's. We're cousins and Skyler's tutor not necessarily qualified, take on new responsibilities. Linda is a 23-year-old taking a gap year after graduating from UW-Madison with a bachelor's degree in psychology last summer.

meetings at 8:45 a.m. Her son Skyler, focuses on English Language Arts. 8, and her daughter Sofia, 5, sleep for He watches an instructional video their clothes. She tries to simulate a book of choice is the brightly illusthe Dark Magic." Linda helps sound Aylin starts the school day manag- out words and guides him through calls, on two separate school-issued annotating key passages in the story

presses a stuffed animal against his face while working through an assignment at his home in Greenfield.

Opposite, top left Sofia hugs a stuffed bear named Tomato as she starts her virtual classroom

Top right: Sofia eats a cracker and joins Skyler as he watches a video for class.

Middle: Linda walks her voung cousin Skyler through an assianment.

Rottom left: While usually consists of short videos.

Rottom right: Skyler reads the brightly Strange: Mystery of



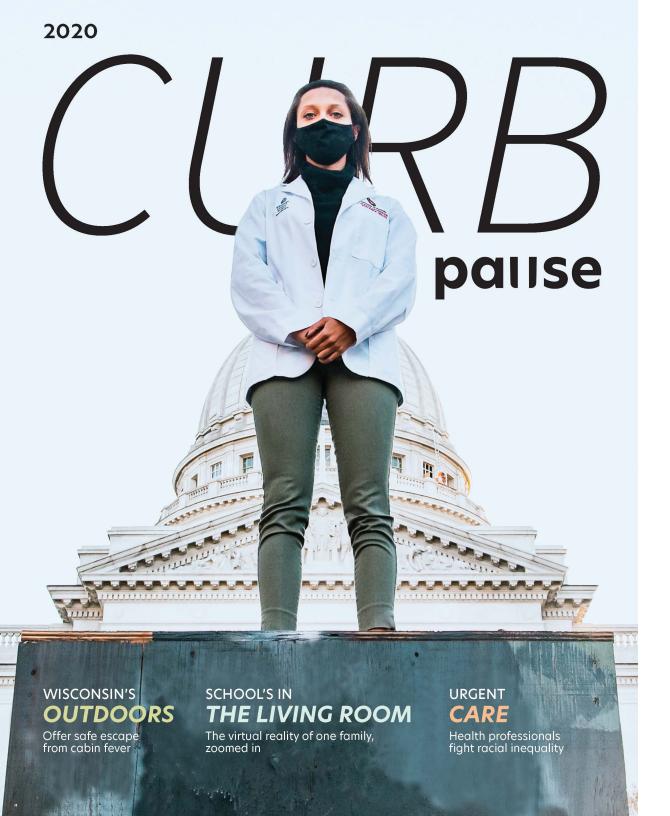








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Photo story: A day in the life of a student at home (https://news.wisc.edu/photo-gallery-a-day-in-the-life-of-a-student-at-home/)



Winning at winter: Carnival time (https://news.wisc.edu/winning-at-winter-carnival-time/)



