

Voice over transcript of “natural history” of family life in lockdown

Today we are in the Pauling Household, its Groundhog day. Situated in Tunbridge Wells, 5 people live here and are going about their new “normal” day. We are exploring the lockdown life.

Here we can see a frustrated father and mother trying to keep their temper under control because their daughter has done her DT work on the kitchen floor. This consists of making a junk model roller-coaster using a glue gun on the expensive wooden floor with nothing put down to protect it. No wonder they are so mad. The mother is seen approaching the daughter about the mess but the conversation is swiftly cut short as the daughter storms out the door and slams it. She has had a very lucky escape because the glass did not smash behind her. Meanwhile, the youngest daughter has completed her school work and is now playing on the laptop. She is blissfully unaware that it is getting so hot that it is burning her legs and sounds as though it is about to blow up. As we move to the back of the house, the male child can be seen lifting weights in the garden that are almost the same size as him. Let's hope he does not break the deck or himself.

Later in the day, the eldest daughter is seen laying on the floor once again doing her work but in a different room to earlier and still in the way of everyone. As the day draws to a close, the mother of the house can be observed doing a light spot of sewing listening to Mondays episode of the Archers podcast or watching her favourite program. Meanwhile, the father is chilling watching Ozark in the kitchen whilst clanging the plates about as he unloads the dishwasher for the fourth time that day. Another regular occurrence is when the children want to watch something in the kitchen but the loud sounds of the dishwasher/cooker are too much and numerous aggressive shushes are needed so that they can watch in silence. From the downstairs, you can hear the laughing of the son as he plays X-box with his friends. This is just a look at what life has been like in lockdown for the Pauling family and as the day draws to a close, the three children have to be pushed upstairs to bed so that they get a refreshing sleep, only for the whole thing to be repeated the next day.