



As a full-time working single mum lockdown was actually a real treat for me. It was so nice to get to sleep in everyday and to just lay in bed in the morning and read books to my 5 year old son and not have to rush off to school and work. Yuko, our 16 year old Japanese Nelson College for Girls exchange student, was also in our bubble. The 3 of us loved going for walks around our neighbourhood every afternoon and we all noticed things we'd never noticed before - cool letter boxes, interesting plants, different nations flags flying... We enjoyed seeing all the teddies and other soft toys in peoples windows and the ANZAC Day displays people put up around Atawhai. We made lots of different soups and feijoa chutney and Chelsea Winter's ' Lockdown Loaf' (<http://chelseawinter.co.nz/lockdown-loaf-beer-bread/> ) because the supermarket had sold out of yeast! When we got cabin fever we escaped to the Boulder Bank down the road from our place and made huts and piled up rocks. I felt guilty for enjoying myself and the slower pace of life and extra time with my son when people around me were losing their jobs and worrying about catching COVID-19. Hopefully, looking back, the lockdown will be a good memory for all three of us.