

Fire Guard VR: Mastering Fire Safety through Virtual Extinguisher Training

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Abstract

Addressing the shortcomings of traditional fire extinguisher training, our groundbreaking solution harnesses the power of Roblox Studio to create an innovative VR app. This cost-effective and scalable platform offers immersive simulations of real-world fire scenarios, revolutionizing safety education. By eliminating the need for costly physical drills, our app enables large groups to practice extinguisher use virtually. Features like progress tracking and customization enhance accessibility, making fire safety training efficient, affordable, and engaging for all.

Index Terms—Roblox Studio Development, Virtual Reality (VR) Application Design, Game Development Platforms, User Interface (UI) Design in VR, Educational Game Design, Interactive Simulation Development

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I. INTRODUCTION

In the dynamic landscape of safety education, we present an unparalleled advancement: the fusion of Virtual Reality (VR) in fire extinguisher training. Amidst the challenges of costly and resource-intensive traditional methods, our project stands as a beacon of innovation. Leveraging the robust capabilities of Roblox Studio and the scripting language Lua, we've crafted a transformative learning experience. Through immersive simulations of diverse fire scenarios, users gain a comprehensive understanding of extinguisher operation, unbound by physical limitations.

Our VR program extends its reach from bustling corporate settings to intimate residential spaces, fostering a universal culture of safety. This isn't just about affordability or scalability—it's about empowering individuals globally with practical skills. The app's features, including progress tracking, customization, and regular updates, ensure a tailored and evolving training platform. We're not just revolutionizing safety education; we're catalyzing a shift towards proactive

safety consciousness. By equipping communities with the tools to respond effectively to modern fire emergencies, our project heralds a new era of safety education, where knowledge meets innovation.

A. Applications across Industries

In the realm of fire safety education, the future holds a transformative promise with the advent of AR and VR-based fire extinguisher training methods. Firefighters and safety educators will now have a powerful tool at their disposal, enabling them to provide interactive, cost-effective, and safe training sessions for individuals of all backgrounds. Through immersive simulations of real-world fire scenarios, this innovative approach ensures that participants can master the proper use of fire extinguishers in a controlled and engaging environment. With the ability to customize training experiences and track progress, firefighters can tailor sessions to meet the needs of diverse groups, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness and accessibility of fire safety education. This technology

heralds a new era where fire extinguisher training becomes not just a necessity, but an interactive and empowering experience for all.

II. LITERATURE SURVEY

This article introduces a groundbreaking Augmented Reality (AR) App [1] poised to revolutionize musical education for children. The App's core functionality involves validating the correct colouring of musical note sequences on a printed pentagram (target). Simultaneously, an enchanting AR animation unfolds, featuring a lively 3D character synchronized with the melody, creating a multisensory learning experience. Rigorously tested with six children, the results demonstrate the App's significant potential in enhancing musical education. By seamlessly merging traditional musical notation with immersive AR elements, this tool transcends conventional methods, making learning engaging and dynamic. This innovative

approach not only captivates young learners but also fosters a deeper understanding of musical concepts. The successful outcomes from the trial underscore the efficacy of this fusion, signalling a promising future for leveraging AR technology to enrich and elevate children's musical education worldwide.

Owing to the executive functioning challenges inherent in autism spectrum disorder (ASD), individuals with ASD encounter impediments in acquiring adaptive living skills and achieving independence, as specified in [2]. Learning tasks such as processing information, navigating social interactions, and engaging in public speech within bustling environments prove particularly challenging for them. While Virtual Reality (VR) has been explored in previous studies to aid ASD individuals in acquiring daily living skills, real-world task completion may remain elusive despite virtual training. This paper introduces ParaShop, a mobile Augmented Reality (AR) application for Android and iOS devices, specifically designed to guide individuals with ASD through supermarket shopping sequences.

Emerging technology has made the application of augmented reality increasingly extensive, as detailed in [3]. The application is developed based on AR Foundation, encapsulating SDKs of ARCore and ARKit. AR Foundation can scan the environment and continuously improve the understanding of the environment by detecting feature points and planes in real scenes. The app creates an interactive plane where objects are placed. Users can select modules, set parameters to define the role's code logic, and see

the results in real-time. The project's goal is to enable children to merge practical skills with visual effects, thereby fostering a more comprehensive development of their intellectual abilities. This paper introduces an augmented reality (AR)-based application for guitar chord training, as outlined in [4], featuring high-quality 3D models and animated instructions. The app's usability, measured by a System Usability Scale (SUS) questionnaire, scored 82.0, indicating excellent user experience. The study, encompassing individuals with and without musical experience, concludes that the application offers a valuable learning approach for all participants. Notably, those with prior musical experience exhibited faster learning. The research also identifies gender-based differences, with males learning faster, potentially attributed to spatial awareness variances. These findings suggest promising avenues for further exploration in spatial reasoning within AR-based musical instruction. As outlined in [5], augmented reality (AR) is increasingly integrated into education, particularly in challenging subjects like electronics. This study introduces an interactive AR app focused on electrical circuits to enhance students' comprehension. The app facilitates circuit manipulation, computes voltage and amperage using the loop method, and applies Kirchhoff's voltage law. The research aims to gauge students' intention to use the AR app, exploring potential influences like survey methods (online or face-to-face) and gender. [6] In our contemporary world, the issue of information overload has gained unprecedented significance. Addressing this challenge involves employing three primary methods: website navigation, search engines, and applications (APPs). Website navigation strategically organizes renowned websites, categorically alleviating information overload. Search engines manage this influx by indexing vast web pages. Yet, when users struggle to articulate their needs explicitly, traditional methods falter, making animation-

oriented APPs a viable solution. [7] This study aimed to create an AR-based application, AI EduAR, to facilitate AI learning for students not majoring in engineering and to evaluate its educational impact. AI EduAR provides a visual platform that demonstrates machine learning processes. The study involved 88 undergraduate students with no prior AI education. They were taught AI principles and tasked with solving 10 problems using AI EduAR. [8] The article presents a new

virtual tool for learning human anatomy based on the idea of body ownership and embodiment. Body ownership is the feeling that our body is ours and different from others, and embodiment is the process of learning through physical actions and sensations. The tool is called the human muscular arm avatar (HMAA), and it uses virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR) to let users explore the muscles of the hand and forearm.

[9], The article reviews the use of augmented reality (AR) for learning in engineering studies. It aims to answer five research questions: RQ1) Which engineering disciplines have used AR; RQ2) What kinds of educational activities have used AR; RQ3) How AR has affected students and instructors; RQ4) What features AR apps have; and RQ5) how interactive AR apps are. [10] The article describes how a new app is developed to showcase campus culture using VR and metaverse technology. 3D modelling was used based on the data collected by a UAV with different sensors. The contents of the app were chosen based on user demand analysis using three methods: the fuzzy Kano model, the entropy weighting method, and the TOPSIS method.

III. PROPOSED METHODOLOGY

A. Workflow

To develop a comprehensive fire extinguisher training simulation using Roblox Studio and Luau scripting, begin by mastering the Studio's interface and basic object manipulation. Next, delve into Luau scripting to create user-defined scripts that simulate fire extinguisher actions like spraying foam and deployment.

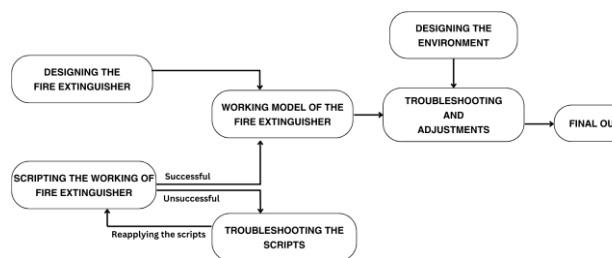


Fig.1: Architecture of FireGuard VR

Research the mechanics of real extinguishers, understanding fire types and proper handling. Design a detailed 3D model of the extinguisher, complete with textures and labels. Integrate these elements into an interactive simulation where users can pick up, aim, and extinguish virtual fires. Implement feedback systems and progress tracking, refining the simulation through playtesting and iterative improvements. Once polished,

publish the simulation to the Roblox platform, providing clear user guides for an engaging and educational experience.

B. Software used

- **Roblox Studio:** Roblox Studio stands as a dynamic game development platform, offering a robust toolkit for creating immersive experiences. With an intuitive interface, users can craft 3D worlds, design intricate game mechanics, and script interactive elements using the Lua-based language, Luau. This powerful software empowers developers to bring their ideas to life, from simple simulations to complex multiplayer games, within the vibrant Roblox ecosystem.

C. How to use and standard procedures - Fire Extinguisher

Pull the pin to break the seal and unlock the lever. Aim the nozzle or hose at the base of the fire, not the flames. Squeeze the lever to release the extinguishing agent. Sweep the nozzle or hose from side to side, covering the entire area of the fire. Keep a safe distance of 6 to 10 feet (1.8 to 3 m) from the fire and move closer as the fire dies down. Once the fire is out, back away from the area and keep an eye on it. If the fire re-ignites, repeat the PASS technique until the extinguisher is empty or the fire is completely out. Do not turn your back on the fire or leave the scene until the fire department arrives.

D. Usability Study

Here's the usability study on the fire extinguisher training project among 57 participants from various backgrounds: **– Knowledge Gap:** 73.7 percentage of participants admitted to not knowing how to use a fire extinguisher, with 21.1 percentage reporting prior encounters with fire accidents.

- **Confidence Boost:** When asked if given hands-on experience, 78.9 percentage expressed confidence in their ability to de-escalate fire situations.

- **Lack of Training:** Surprisingly, 89.5 percentage of respondents had not received any formal fire extinguisher training.

- **Preference for VR Training:** A resounding 96.5 percentage favored learning through animated VR games, highlighting a strong interest in interactive methods.

- **VR Simulation Preference:** When given the choice between VR simulations and traditional methods, 71.9 percentage opted for the immersive VR experi-

ence.

This study indicates a clear need for accessible and engaging fire extinguisher training. The overwhelmingly positive response underscores the relevance and

potential impact of this innovative project. Participants showed a willingness to embrace the VR-based training, demonstrating its potential to bridge the gap in fire safety education effectively.

IV. RESULTS

A. How Useful was FireGuardAR on learning Fire Extinguisher Training

The usability study conducted among 57 participants across diverse backgrounds sheds light on the pivotal role of the fire extinguisher training project in educating individuals about fire safety. A striking finding reveals a substantial knowledge gap, with a staggering 73.7 percentage of participants admitting to lacking familiarity with the operation of fire extinguishers, despite 21.1 percentage reporting prior encounters with fire accidents. However, the project emerged as a beacon of empowerment, with 78.9 percentage expressing newfound confidence in their ability to de-escalate fire situations after receiving hands-on experience through the simulation.

Have you come across a fire hazard?

57 responses

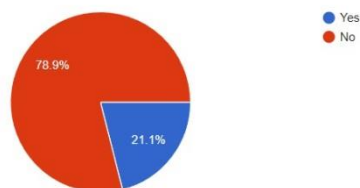


Fig.2: Have you come across a fire hazard

Would you prefer to receive fire extinguisher training through traditional methods (e.g. classroom, hands-on) or through VR simulations?

57 responses

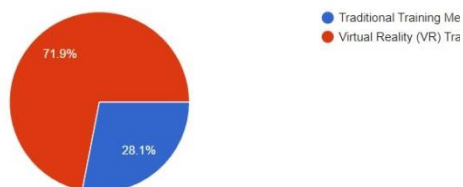


Fig. 3: Would you prefer to receive fire extinguisher training through traditional methods (e.g. classroom, hands-on) or through VR simulations?

Moreover, the resounding preference for VR-based training was resoundingly clear, with a remarkable 96.5 percentage of participants indicating their enthusiasm for learning through animated

VR games. This preference reflects a strong desire

for engaging, interactive, and practical learning experiences. When given the choice between traditional training methods and VR simulations, 71.9 percentage opted for the immersive virtual environment, showcasing the project's effectiveness in captivating and educating users.

Have you received formal training on how to use a fire extinguisher?

57 responses

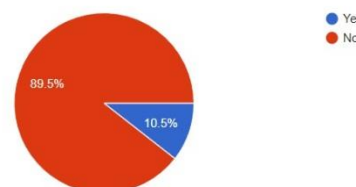


Fig. 4: Have you received formal training on how to use a fire extinguisher?

If you were given a hands-on experience, do you feel you can de-escalate the situation?

57 responses

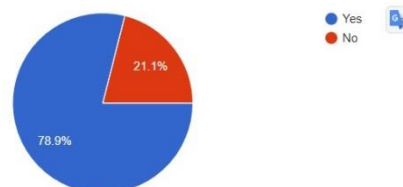


Fig. 5: If you were given a hands-on experience, do you feel you can de-escalate the situation?

These compelling results underscore the project's significant impact in addressing the critical need for accessible and engaging fire extinguisher training. By providing a platform that not only educates but also boosts confidence in handling fire emergencies, this project stands as a vital tool in enhancing fire safety awareness and preparedness.

Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher?

57 responses

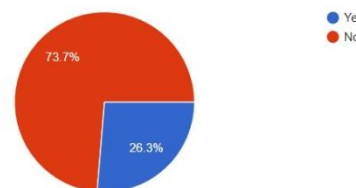


Fig.6: Do you know how to use a fire extinguisher?

Do you think VR simulations could be improved to enhance fire extinguisher training effectiveness?
 57 responses

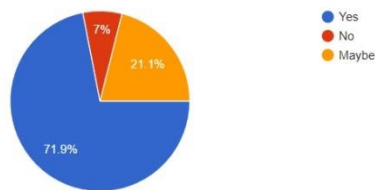


Fig.7: Do you think VR simulations could be improved to enhance fire extinguisher training effectiveness?

With its immersive and interactive approach, it has the potential to revolutionize fire safety education, equipping individuals with the knowledge and skills needed to respond effectively to fire incidents.

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the fire extinguisher training project has proved to be a resounding success, bridging the knowledge gap and empowering individuals with vital fire safety skills. The overwhelming enthusiasm for VR-based training, coupled with the newfound confidence expressed by participants, highlights the project's effectiveness. This innovative approach not only educates but also instills a sense of preparedness, ensuring a safer and more resilient community against fire emergencies.

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