AREAL-VOCAB

AN AUGMENTED REALITY MOBILE APPLICATION FOR ENGLISH VOCABULARY LEARNING OF CHILDREN WITH MILD AUTISM

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Preface

According to the American Psychiatric Association, autism spectrum disorder is a neurological condition in which children with the diagnosis may struggle to communicate with others or exhibit a recurrent pattern of behaviours. Autism learners are typically visual strategy learners who learn best through pictures and visuals. The majority of students with autism fail to learn new terminology because of cognitive difficulties, and thanks to the Fourth Industrial Revolution, technology is increasingly being used in education. The usage of augmented reality technology has shown to be effective in giving autistic students a more fulfilling learning experience.

In order to aid children with moderate autism in acquiring English vocabulary, the augmented reality mobile application 'AReal-Vocab' was created. To find out how much the designed and created augmented reality mobile application aids in the learning of English language by six mildly autistic youngsters, the developed mobile augmented reality application was later tested on them. Each phase of the ADDIE model has been used to categorise the study's findings. According to studies, children with autism often face obstacles that could prevent them from acquiring English vocabulary easily. From these obstacles, researchers were able to pinpoint the needs that could support mildly autistic children in their English vocabulary learning.

The English vocabulary learning of kids with mild autism has been impacted by the created and developed AReal-Vocab mobile application. Not only has AReal-Vocab assisted children with mild autism in learning English vocabulary in a more engaging yet meaningful way and at the same time piqued their interest in their language learning process, but AReal-Vocab also serves as a platform to instill leisure learning at home and aids in stimulating pronunciation skills and language articulation. The results of this study have significance for the field of autism education that can assist autistic children in learning English vocabulary and meet the goal of inclusive education.

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