ASTRID

Garden of Choices

An Educational role playing experience for youth in VR

As students put on a Virtual Reality (VR) headset, they are immersed in a virtual world where climate change issues are explored through animated narratives and visualizations.

Working with other students, they discuss and negotiate decisions which affect climate change from the perspectives of people, planet and economy. Each decision the group collectively makes will impact their score in the game and facilitate lively debate about climate change actions.

Garden of Choices inspires effective actions through:

- Learning about important climate change topics
- Understanding how climate actions affect people, planet and economy
- Facilitation of debate and negotiation amongst students
- Exploration, play and learning using new technologies
- Memorable and impactful experiences
- Post-immersion discussions, reflection and actions

ASTRID

www.astrid.is

Garden of Choices is the first product emerging from the Astrid initiative whose aim is to create engaging educational climate change Education tools and materials. Astrid is a product from Gagarin (www.gagarin.is) who has over 27 years of experience creating memorable interactive exhibitions for museums and public spaces.

"Climate Change doesn't feel as overwhelming in this game. Feels like you can actually do something about it"

—STUDENT

"When in Virtual Reality, the students are 100% present, their attention is in the game."

—TEACHER

Towards

Climate Empathy

In over 30 user tests, people felt that Garden of Choices empowered them to better understand and talk about Climate Change from a perspective of hope.

A co-creation process

Garden of Choices has been created in close collaboration with teachers from the University of Iceland, with high school students from Iceland and Denmark, scientists from the Meteorological office in Iceland, game designers and computer scientists from Reykjavík University, social science researchers from the University of Iceland, researchers from the Environmental Agency of Iceland, and a climate change expert from Environice.

We are grateful for the financial support from the Technology Fund of The Icelandic Centre for Research (Rannís) and the Icelandic Climate Change Fund in making Garden of Choices a reality.

Try Garden of Choices in your school

We are conducting a pilot project in the Nordics where we bring Garden of Choices to your school district. Five students can use Garden of Choices at one time and we expect to test with 5 groups of students (25 total, though this can be adjusted as needed).

Testing will take place between February to March 2022. Contact us at testing@astrid.is to book a session.