# The Evaluation of Augmented Reality Applications in European Primary Schools



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#### Augmented Reality (AR) in Education: Current Status

- AR as a potentially suitable means to support teaching and learning processes (Chen, Liu, Cheng, & Huang, 2017)
- Promising research results imply a positive effect of AR
- e.g. on student motivation, self efficacy and learning achievements (Ibáñez & Delgado-Kloos, 2018)
- A growing number of AR tools for classrooms (Ross, 2019)
- Lack of systematic evaluation approaches and multi-disciplinary research studies (Dünser, Grasset, & Billinghurst, 2008; Ibáñez & Delgado-Kloos, 2018)
- Need for research on the impact of AR on teaching and learning processes (Petrov & Atanasova, 2020)

### Project ARETE: A Horizon2020 Project Focused on Augmented Reality in European Primary Schools

- Runtime: November 2019 April 2023
- 10 partner institutions from 7 European countries (Universities, research institutions, NPO, SMEs)

- Piloting and evaluating the effectiveness of AR interactive technologies in European Primary Schools
- Development of an interactive AR toolkit for educational contexts
- Several Pilots for different pedagogical scenarios for AR in teaching and learning

**Pilot 1: English Literacy Acquisition** 

Can an Augmented Reality app help advance primary students' English literacy learning?

> App: WordsworthLearning AR Program for English Literacy Learning



- Sample: n=20 Teachers & 93 Students from 4 Countries Students are underperforming in standardized school literacy tests
- Intervention Approach:
  - Teachers work with small groups (approx. 5 students)
  - They advance their students' literacy skills using the app (intervention group) or their traditional methods (control group)
  - Duration: one school term, about 15 minutes daily

#### **Pilot 2: STEM Learning (Geometry & Geography)**

Can Augmented Reality apps help primary students improve their STEM test scores?

Apps: Cleverbooks AR apps for geometry and geography



- Sample: n=156 Teachers & 3,653 Students from 12 countries Students do not show irregular learning requirements
- > Intervention Approach:
  - Teachers integrate an AR app (geometry <u>or</u> geography) into their regular teaching (intervention group) or go on with their traditional lessons (control group)
  - Duration and extent of the intervention is flexible, in accordance with teachers' pedagogical concepts
- Evaluation Methodology:
  - Pretest-posttest-retention test design with intervention & control group
     <u>Students</u>: Standardized knowledge test; context data; motivational scale

#### Evaluation Methodology:

- Pretest-posttest design with intervention & control group
- <u>Students</u>: Standardized reading and spelling tests; motivational scale
- <u>Teachers</u>: Interviews and surveys focusing on pedagogical implications of AR use
- <u>Parents</u>: Case History form on student comorbidities etc.



 <u>Teachers</u>: Interviews and surveys focusing on pedagogical implications of AR use



#### **Outcomes Targeted**

- Conclusions on the usefulness of Augmented Reality apps for English literacy / STEM learning
- Findings concerning pedagogical implications of AR use in teaching & learning processes (barriers, problems, facilitators, ...)
- Policy recommendations on a European level

#### Sources

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The research presented in this poster has received funding from the European Union's Horizon2020 research and innovation programme - project ARETE (grant agreement No. 856533).