

EF Games: A Fun, Kid Friendly Way of Diagnosing Autism Spectrum Disorder

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Problem

The Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) is a difficult condition to diagnose, due to the lack of conclusive medical test.

Solution

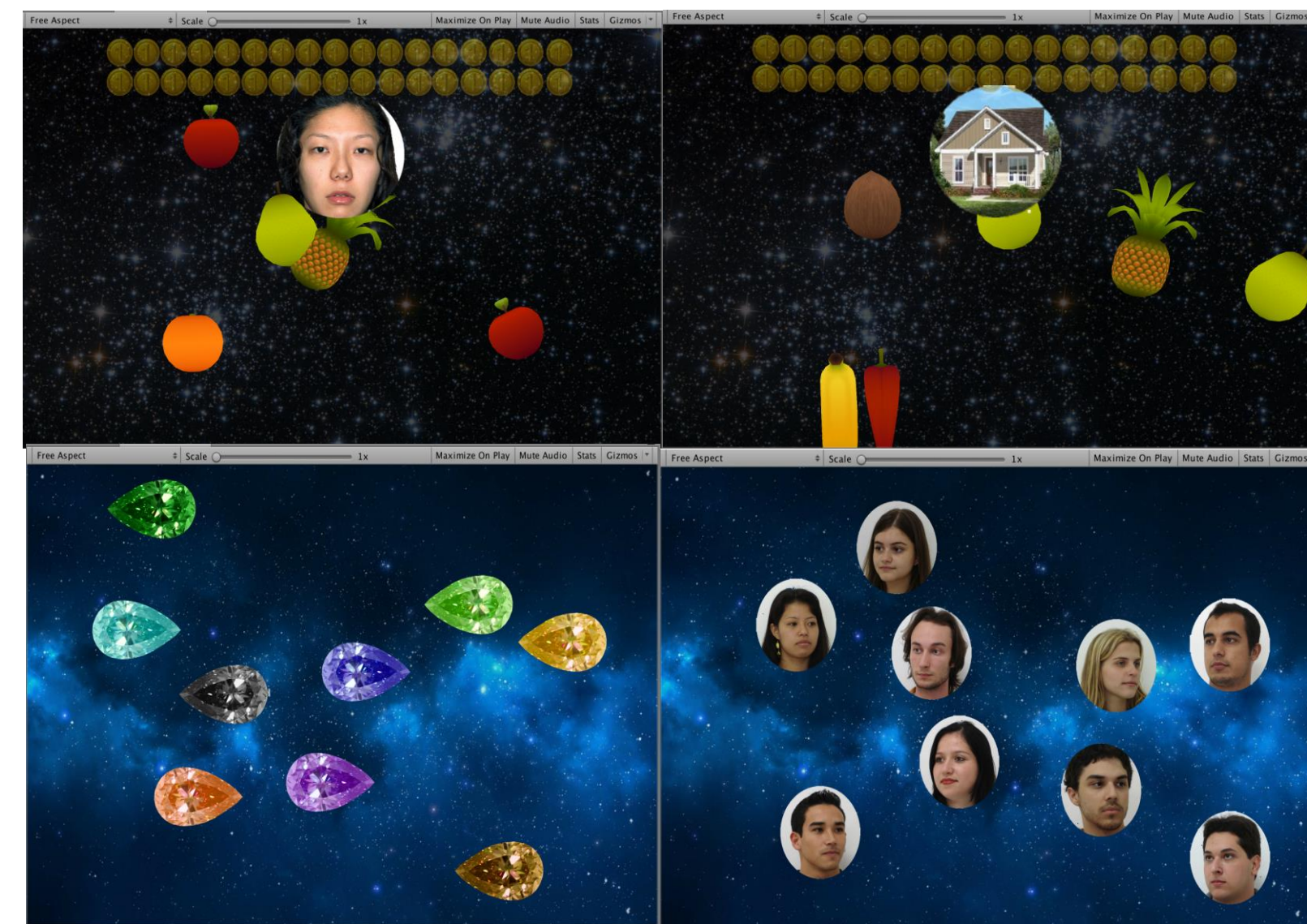
In order to create a better, kid friendly way to diagnose ASD, SCITL team developed a mobile games that are designed to collect children's executive function. These executive function data is then used to train machine learning models that are designed to accurately diagnose ASD. Our solution is able to accurately predict ASD with 70% accuracy.

Responsibility

- Creating secure channel of communication between client's devices and Seattle Children server.
- Improve and optimize the game's data collection process in order to capture more relevant data that can be used to more accurately diagnose ASD
- Simulating a game session based on the log files created during the gameplay
- Research how to utilize rewards to incentivize children to play the games.

Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) Facts

- > 1 in 59 children is diagnosed with ASD
- > 1 in 37 boys
- > 1 in 151 girls
- > There is no currently medical detection for ASD
- > Most people diagnosed with autism is diagnosed after the age of 4, even though it can reliably diagnosed at age 2



Webserver and REST API

Client's medical data, including executive function data, is protected under HIPAA and we have to create a secure channel of communication between the client's devices and the Seattle Children's Server. I created a secure TLS Webserver in Node JS and Express JS to facilitate this data transfer.



Use Case:

- Securely transfer game session log data from the client's device to the Seattle Children's High Performance Computer.
- Design and query the database to store and access user's information including game score, location, owned avatars and keep track of the in game currency.
- Create a secure channel to transfer survey information and automatically update all the client's survey questions.

Reward System Research

Problem:

Incentivize gameplay over long period of time in order to capture possible changes of data over time.

Solution:

- In game currency that rewards users for playing the game.
- Scoreboard that compares their score with people in the area.
- Avatars that can be bought using the in game currency.

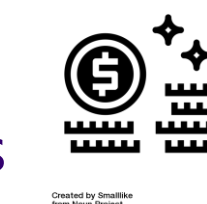


Problem:

Disproportionate amount of game data collected because some games are more popular than the other games.

Solution:

Extrinsic reward in the form of extra coins when the users play the non-popular games

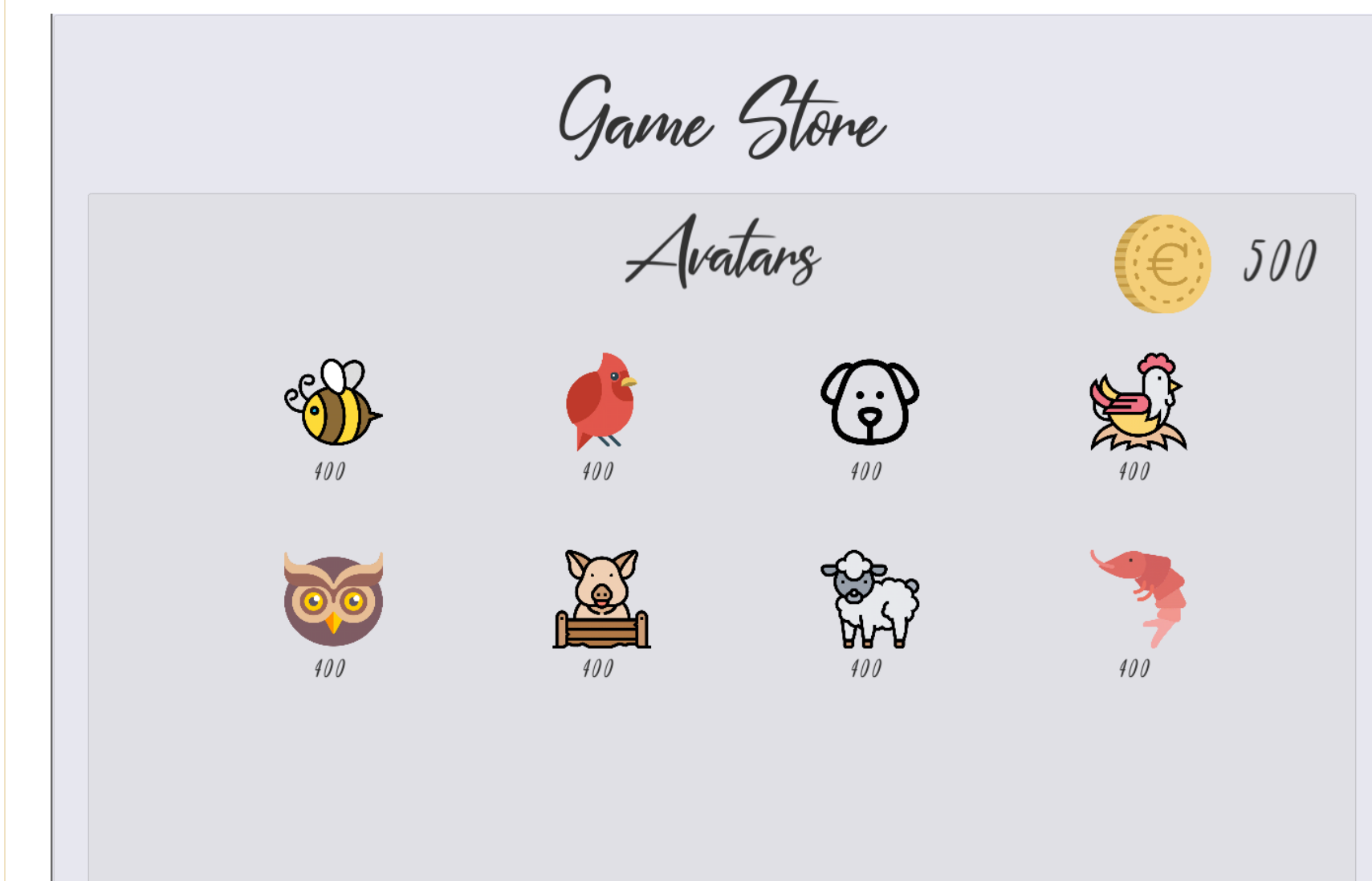


Problem:

More qualitative information is needed in order to understand whether or not a child has ASD.

Solution:

On top of the quantitative data that are collected by the game session logs, we added a form where users can answer questions in exchange for in-game currency. These questions will then be used to understand the child's conditions.



Log Data Collection

Problem:

Designing a document format that can capture all the data needed to successfully simulate a game session.

Solution:

Implemented a logging system that tracks the location of every user touches, swipes and the location of all objects in the screen.

