

Moatboat

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Bringing the Word to Life via *Moatboat*

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³ Augmented Reality (AR) refers to "a combination of technologies that enables real-time mixing of computer-generated content with live video display. AR is based on techniques developed in VR and interacts not only with a virtual world but has a degree of interdependence with the real world" (Mekni & Lemieux, 2014, p. 205). In this age of technology and information, augmented reality has become an integral part of the world, enhancing the experience of all fields, including English language teaching.

Studies on the integration of AR in English language teaching shows that AR has been considered as an effective tool in improving students' learning since it enables a sense of timely interaction between real and virtual environments, encourages interactivity and engagement, and offers opportunities for students to develop their own content (Tulgar, 2019). AR's two-dimensional methods of presenting information enhance students' ability to remember what they have learned, leading to faster acquisition of the target language (Wu et. al., 2013).

Though AR offers ultimate benefits when incorporated into English teaching, many teachers still do not have a concrete plan or an idea of exactly how to implement the technology within their classrooms. This article presents some suggested simple activities to help teachers start teaching English with one AR application, i.e., *Moatboat*.

***Moatboat*: An Overview**

Moatboat takes on the title as the world's first creation engine, allowing its users to type or speak instructions to add objects and give them behaviors. The users can give simple commands such as 'I need some cows' to add cows into the user's AR world, and 'Cows eat grass' to make the cows eating grass.

Moatboat has over 1,000 different objects such as plants, animals, and buildings which can be placed across 15 different unique worlds. The users are given a chance to create their AR world from scratch or to explore the existing virtual world provided. Furthermore, the app can be used inside the class or outside the school building.

Moatboat, available to download for free on the App Store and Playstore, is also labeled as a social world builder for AR because its users can share their creations with

Moatboat

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