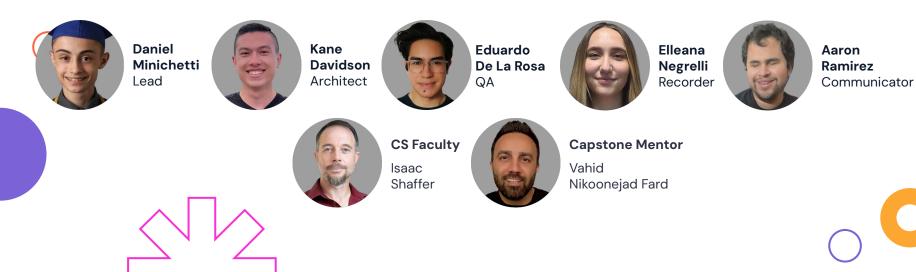


Diverse Makers



About our Client



Dr. Jared Duval Assistant Professor – SICCS NAU Director of Playful Health Technology Lab

Experience in the Field

• Uses research through design to develop therapy games and playful applications that help improve and maintain health

Research Focus

• Specializes in serious games for health that emphasize human-computer interaction with assistive technology



Lack of STEM Accessibility



Current STEM Landscape

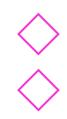
"Over 40 million Americans have a disability, however, research shows that disabled people are severely underrepresented in STEM fields. So much so that only 3% of people in the STEM workforce have a disability."

Potential Solution

- STEM learning opportunities are not equally accessible to those with disabilities
- Makerspaces offer hands-on STEM learning outside school









Limited Physical Access to Makerspaces

 Many makerspaces are not physically accessible to individuals with disabilities



Lack of Accessible Learning Resources

 Current STEM materials and maker project guides do not cater to diverse learning needs



Social Isolation in STEM Fields

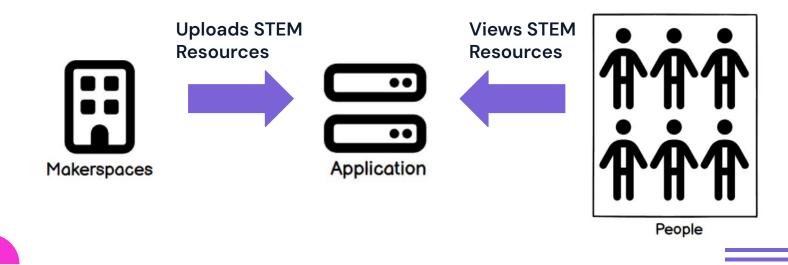
• Those with disabilities face social barriers leading to a lack of community



Making STEM More Accessible

Crowdsourced mobile application serves as a central hub for sharing STEM resources

- Provides STEM resource hosting and sharing for makerspaces
- Accessible interface and STEM content supporting multiple disabilities
- Allows users to discover and connect with local makerspaces with custom profiles



Requirements and Specifications



- Secure user authentication
- Resource hosting for STEM
 content
- Accessible UI for multiple disabilities
- Location-based makerspace discovery
- Search and filter system





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Performance Requirements

- Cross-platform compatibility
- Responsive layout and design
- Optimized data retrieval for STEM content
- Real-time updates and synchronization



Architecture and Implementation



System Architecture Components

- User Interface
 - Buttons, navigation, and accessibility options
- Business Logic
 - Data validation, organization, and rules
- Data Access
 - Data storage, modification, and retrieval





Implementation Details

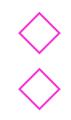
Frontend: React Native

- Cross-platform consistency
- Accessible UI components with React Paper
- Material Design principles

Backend: Google Firebase

- User authentication services
- Real-time database for hosting
- Search and filter functionality





Prototype Demonstration

Scenario 1: Visual Impairment User

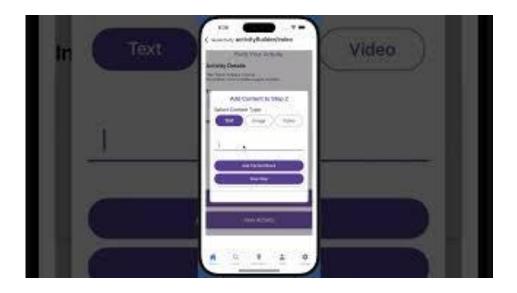
- Account creation and login
- High contrast mode
- Font size adjustment

Scenario 2: Content Creation

• STEM Resource creation and upload

Scenario 3: Community Connection

- Makerspace discovery
- Profile interaction



Challenges and Resolutions

Unintuitive system for Makerspaces

- Problem: Poor design of application could lead to low usage and contribution
- Resolution: Communication with client and key stakeholders

Disability Negligence

- Problem: Unintended negligence of certain disabilities when accommodating for others
- Resolution: Follow proper design principles such as WCAG









Testing Plan

Jest

Testing Distribution

- Unit Testing (50%)
 - Core component functionalities
 - User authentication, content management, accessibility features
- Integration Testing (25%)
 - Front-end and back-end communication
- Usability Testing (25%)
 - End user validation

Key Metrics

- Task completion rates
- Error rates
- User satisfaction scores
- Accessibility compliance



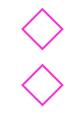




Diverse Makers Project Schedule Gantt Chart

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TASK MILESTONES	FALL 2024 SEMESTER			
	September	October	November	December
User Interface Design Prototypes				
Set Up Data Access Component				
Frontend Implementation				
Set Up Business Logic Component				
Unit Testing				
Integration Testing				
Usability Testing				
Feedback Integration				
Application Deployment				







Future Work

Solution



Project Importance Breaking barriers in STEM learning

opportunities



Future Steps

Deployment of our modular application for ease of future development



Iteration of new features onto the application to expand social connection

Mobile application

enforces usability

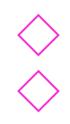
and accessibility

Implementation

React Native, Google Firebase, and Google Firestore







Thank you!

Any Questions?

