

# Flash Talk 101

Early Childhood Education and Nursing Initiatives:  
Some Things to Consider for Program Development.



# Objectives

- At the conclusion of this Flash Talk, participants should be able to describe:
  - An Aha moment
  - The Cub Companion project
    - The purpose of the Cub
    - The purpose of the project
- Two (2) applications that might be pertinent to the WPSU Early Childhood Education Project



# College of Nursing wins 2018 mHealth Challenge



## Pediatric Cub Companion

"BECAUSE KIDS CAN'T FIGHT CANCER ALONE."

BY MADISON RAMSEY, AMY ESTES, PETER MEGLIS, JIAHUA MA

- An app is used to control a Bluetooth speaker placed inside a stuffed bear to communicate with children about their medical treatment. Designed to reduce anxiety in pediatric cancer patients by providing comfort, knowledge and evidence-based coping mechanisms.





# Cub Companion

## Categories

Education >

Distraction >

Breathing >

Connected to Mr. Squiggles

## Distraction

### Activities

Sing a song >

Ask a question >

Count >

Imagine a scene >





# Breathing

## Activities

Balloon blowing



Candle blowing



Belly breathing



Nose breathing



 Cub Companion

### Categories

Education >

Distraction >

Breathing >

Connected to Mr. Squiggles



Prototype



# Belly Breathing

## Description

Deep breathing is an effective way to relax your child. With belly breathing, your child will place Mr. Squiggles on their stomach...

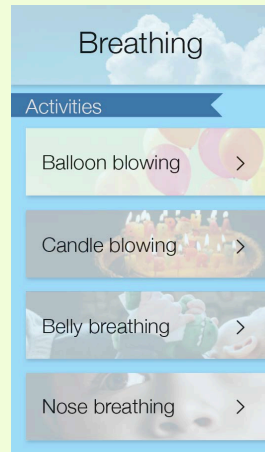
## Bear's Dialogue

It's time to take me on a ride!

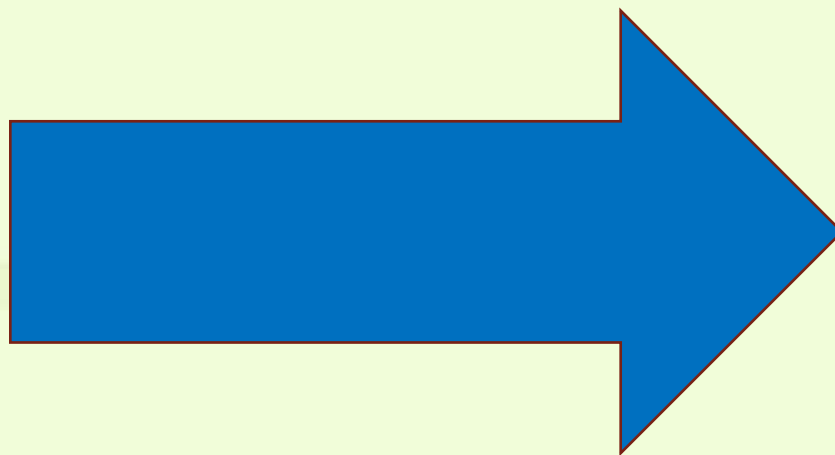
Put me on your belly and take a big deep breath through your nose as I count to 4. Make your belly nice and round!

1, 2, 3, 4

Now hold your breath as I count...



# Onward State







Research on child interaction with products has helped the team understand how a child might react to Cub Companion.







- *(From Berardi, Hulburt, Miller & Merkel “WPSU Innovation Planning Grant”)*
- WPSU’s strength in **trusted** children’s programming should be re-emphasized, with a unit that connects with school districts, libraries, homeschoolers, daycares and caregivers.
- Priorities
  - Serving Learning Families in our Geographically Dispersed Coverage Area
  - Supporting Early Childhood Development
  - Focus on Learning Impact
  - Leveraging Penn State and Community Connections
  - Continue to Innovate









The team determined that the biggest areas of focus were building trust in a new environment and encouraging distraction from invasive procedures.



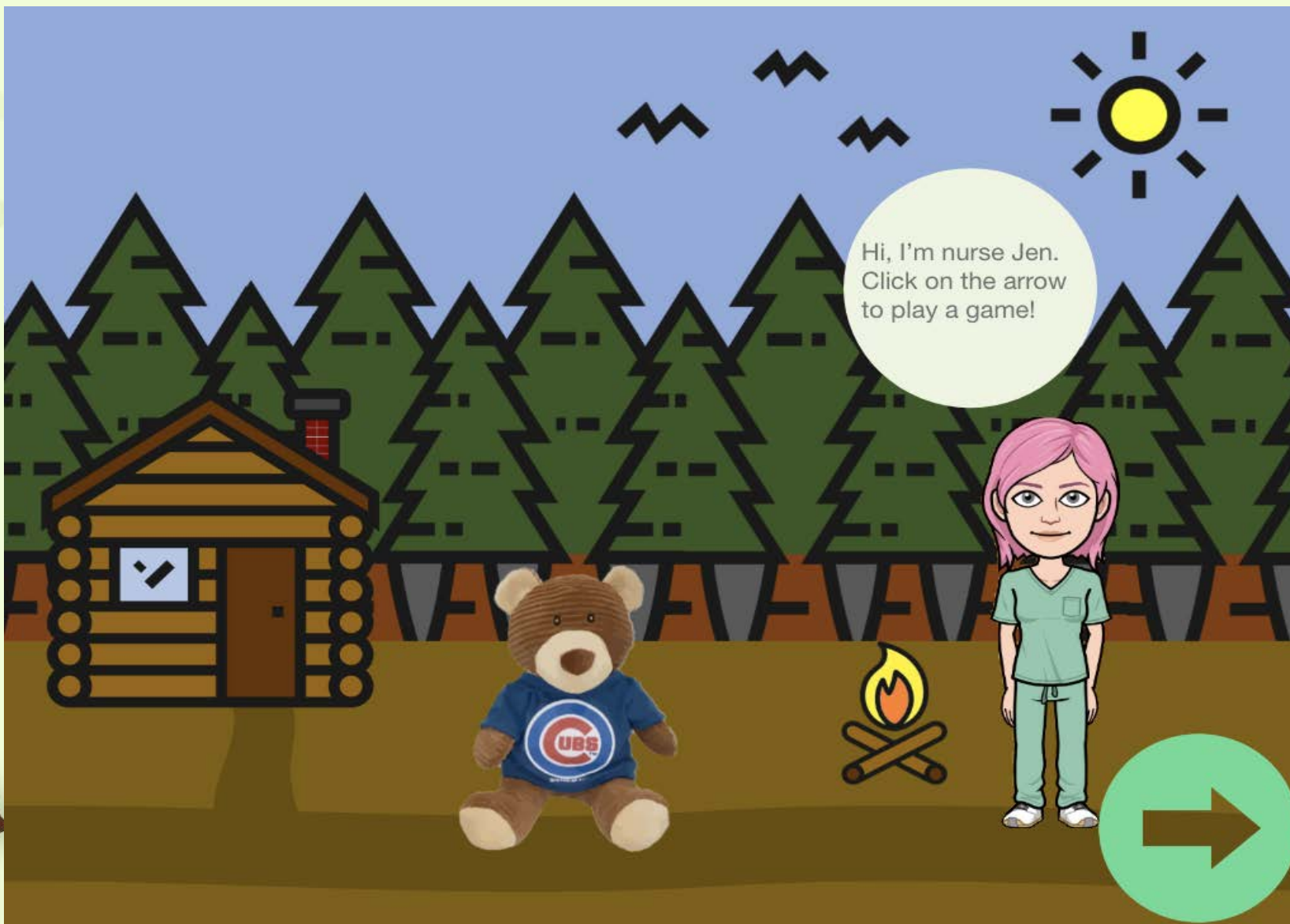
Retrieved from: <http://itsnotaboutnutrition.com/2018/09/03/everyone-always-giving-kids-candy/>



Retrieved from: <https://together.stjude.org/en-us/about-pediatric-cancer/care-team.html>

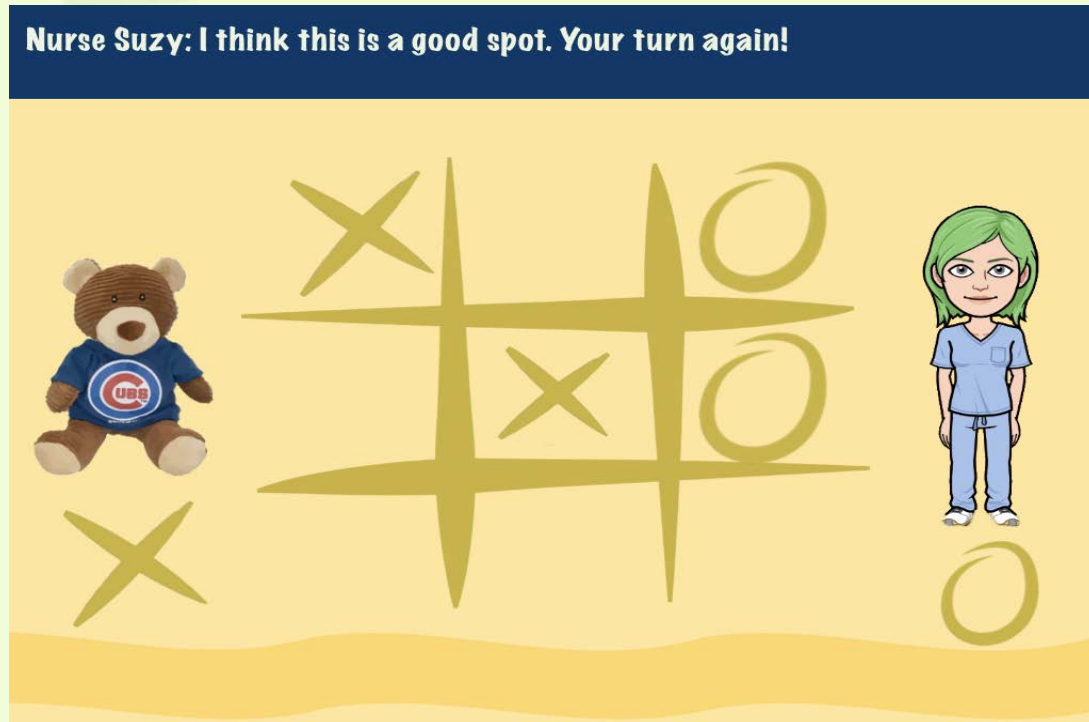
An Aside.....







More research and prototype testing is necessary to evaluate which games are the best for providing distraction and interactivity.



Hmmm. Should I share? How many?

1?

2?

1 for Ernie + 1 for Bert? =

2!







A virtual world with a physical component provides much promise for significantly reducing stress in pediatric cancer patients.





The Word Cloud of the Caretaker, the Educator and the Program Developer Team should look very similar

# WPSU - Where do we go from here?

- The word cloud for the student, the parent and the teacher should look about the same

- The kids are already using this medium



- Mr. Rogers isn't gone. He is just virtual

- That means we can make his sweater any color we want.
  - And zip and unzip it as many times as we want.

- Use students

- They are already there with the tools

- They don't know the "We tried that 8 years ago and it didn't work..." routine for this.



Resiliency

Affinity

Special



# Objectives

Based on the presentation, can we describe...?

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# Developers and Faculty

## Students

- **Nursing**
  - Amy Estes
  - Madison Ramsey
- **IST**
  - Jiahua Ma
  - Peter Meglis\*
- **Engineering**
  - Abdelhady Aboulba
  - Christie Hasbrouck
  - Kevin Kearney
  - Manoj Malviya



## Faculty

- **Nursing**
  - Beth Cutezo
    - [eac4@psu.edu](mailto:eac4@psu.edu)
- **Engineering**
  - Dr. Elizabeth Starkey
    - [ems413@psu.edu](mailto:ems413@psu.edu)
  - Dr. Scarlett Miller
    - [shm13@psu.edu](mailto:shm13@psu.edu)

\* Main student contact

