A Player's Guide to fAR-Play

Thank you for your interest in fAR-Play. In order to play games on the fAR-Play platform, the first thing you'll need to do is to login with an account. This can be accomplished one of two ways. The first is to sign up for an account in order to track your progress across the many games deployed on fAR-Play by going to http://farplay.ualberta.ca/far-play/index.php?page=signup.php. The second is by going to the login page (http://farplay.ualberta.ca/far-play/index.php?page=login.php) and choosing the "play without signing up" option.

When you login to fAR-Play, you will see the list of games that are available to play. Each game consists of a series of adventures, and each adventure consists of a series of nodes that represent a point in the physical world. In order to play a game, click on its name from game select screen. This will bring you to the game description, where you can learn more information about the game. If you would like to play the game after reading its description, begin any of the game's adventures by clicking the the "start this adventure" link. This will activate the adventure and bring you to the adventure in progress screen. Once your adventure has been activated, you can capture nodes in one of three ways.

The first way is to scan a QR Code that is a representation of the node in physical space. In order to capture a node in this way, you must have a QR code reader on your smart phone that supports cookies. If you are using an iOS device, an app like Scan by Scan, Inc. or BeeTagg by connvision AG are appropriate. When using a QR scanning app that has a built in browser supporting cookies, you must first login to fAR-Play using that app. Scanning any fAR-Play QR code will allow you to login to the website, then start the game and adventure that you wish to play. This will allow you to successfully capture any nodes in the adventure.

The second way to capture nodes is by using the Layar browser. Download Layar onto your smart phone and launch the app. Search for the fAR-Play geo-layer by University of Alberta GRAND. Once the geo-layer is launched it will ask you to sign into farplay. Once signed into fAR-Play, activate the game adventure you wish to play. Once the adventure has been activated, close Layar's web browser window to return to the camera view. You will be able to see the adventures nodes through your smart phone's camera. Click on any of the nodes on the screen to gather more information about the node. If you wish to capture this node, click on the "Capture" button. If at any time you wish to bring up the Layar web browser, open the menu by clicking the icon in the lower right corner of the screen and click on the "Info" icon. Then click on the "fAR-Play" button to bring up the fAR-Play website.

The final way to capture a node is through the web browser itself. Click on the "Nodes" link in the adventure in progress screen. This will bring you to the list of nodes that are currently available. Click on a node name to move to the node description screen. This will give you more information about the node, and even show you a map for its location. In order to capture this node, click on the "Capture this Node" link.

When capturing a node, if there is no challenge associated with the node, you will be informed of the successful capture of the node. If there is a challenge associated with the node, you will be taken to the node capture screen. Here you will be presented with a challenge that you will have to successfully overcome in order to capture the node.

Capture all the nodes in an adventure in order to complete it! Some nodes may be hidden and will only be visible once you have captured certain places. Finish all the adventures in a game in order to complete it. Some adventures may not open up until you have finished all the other adventures in a game.

Have fun!