

TRANSCRIPT OF MEDIA-Virtual Reality helps kids explore health careers without leaving school

Payton Glinski-Junior High Student in Earlville

Learned about other opportunities in a health care setting

"I just knew there were nurses, doctors, dentists and social workers but it kind of went into more depth into every part of what a doctor does or (what) everyone in a hospital does ... all the workers." (:14)

Brooklyn Verda-Junior High Student in Earlville

Liked the gaming aspect of it and didn't find it too challenging

"I didn't really have any difficulties. It was pretty fun and easy to do. But, other than that it was really cool." (:09)

Zack Vankeulen, OSF HealthCare

Solves the problem of lack of access to health care settings

"An observer isn't allowed in the emergency room or in the operating room (OR) so they can't learn about those careers as well as some of the other areas (outside of health care) that they have access to. So, by creating this virtual reality environment the students are immersed right in the middle of an OR during a surgical case and they're able to do as close to hands-on experiences they can without actually being in the room." (:24)

Included hard to fill careers

"So we focused on those, mainly, as well as the large volume careers such as nursing and dental hygiene, which you wouldn't think traditionally is an OSF career, but we recognize the need and included that as well." (:18)

Earlville Middle High School Principal Jenette Fruit

The modules and the technology forces students to work on solving problems which they like.

"And they will figure it out and they like being able to explain what they did to solve the problem. And I think that's comes with this too. I didn't know about the boundaries. I didn't know about the different things with the VR and they're like, 'No Mrs. Fruit. This is what you have to do, and this is why.' And kids just like to know how to solve stuff. We just have to put it in their hands." (:21)

Kirsten Sweeney-Science teacher, Earlville Junior High School

Students will use the OSF Innovation-created [healthcareers.guide](https://www.osfhealthcare.org/healthcareersguide/) to dig deeper into a career that interested them during the immersive experiences.

"They always want to know how much they're going to make so we'll be looking at what the average pay is for those positions, and we'll actually have them create a resume and a cover letter as if they were sending it off to OSF." (:15)

Even the exposure to virtual reality technology is a plus

"To be able to work with equipment like this, that they just aren't going to be able to because they just can't afford these types of systems, so it's so valuable to be able to have that in the school system for them." (:11)