

Preliminary Design Review Team Castle Quest October 19, 2016

Electrical and Computer Engineering

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Team Castle Quest



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What's the Problem?

- Game play is no longer group-centric
- Video games, phone/ipad games are often single player
- Lack of social interaction in current games
- Virtually multiplayer, physically singleplayer





How significant is the problem?

- Entertainment gaming has shifted to online gameplay
- We can't even play together in the same apartment









Context: effect on individuals?

- Stereotype surrounding individuals who spend their time online being unable to have healthy social interactions
- Having time with others helps the development of empathy









Context: Effect on groups?

- Game companies and rating sites have expanded the idea that single player is the funnest experience
- Board game market has grown

2015-2019 GLOBAL GAMES MARKET

FORECAST PER SEGMENT TOWARD 2019





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Requirements Analysis: Specifications

- Meet child safety standards of Consumer Product Safety Commission
- Game should fit into a 1ft³ container
- Game should weigh < 5 lbs
- 10+ hours battery life

- Durability to survive transport and repetitive construction/deconstruction
- Support for up to 4 players
- Simple, intuitive gameplay mechanics
- Inexpensive
- Fun to play

Design Alternatives

- JackBox.tv
 - Brought people together to play a game
 - Main focus is phones and TV
- Pokemon Go
 - Brought people outside
 - Encouraged urban exploration
 - Repetitive gameplay and technical issues
 - Quick decline in active users









Our Solution: Castle Quest

- Electronic board game from the early 80's
- Revamp, reinvent, and modernize gameplay and design
- Provide encouragement and excitement around a table
- Potentially work with original creators (Milton Bradley)
- The object of the game is to amass an army, collect the three keys to the Tower, and defeat the evil within



Requirements Analysis: Inputs and Outputs

Inputs

- Power
- Touch Display
- Buttons on board

Outputs

- Data via display
- Castle rotation
- Game progression
- Social Development

- FUN

Our Solution: Block Diagram



Power Supply and Management

Requirements

- Various voltage requirements within Castle
 - Motors, Screen, Data processing

Implementation

- Custom circuit board for power distribution
- Amplification and attenuation of voltage as needed



UI

- Requirements
 - Easy to use
 - Natural, intuitive
- Implementation
 - Buttons
 - Touch Display
 - Mini LCD







Gameplay/Processing

- Requirements
 - Fast action
 - Fun gameplay
 - Accurate game information
- Implementation
 - Java, Python
 - Raspberry Pi



Memory Management

- Requirements
 - Quick to load game
 - Quick to save game
 - Easy to insert and remove
- Implementation
 - Removable USB drive
 - Designed to look like part of the Castle



Estimated Budget

Raspberry Pi	Free (recycled from previous project)
Castle - 3D printing	< \$50
Board	\$20
PCB	\$20
Touch Screen	~\$50
LCD	\$25 x 4 = \$100
Battery	\$15
Memory (USB, SD etc)	\$60
Total:	\$315

Our Development Process



UMassAmherst MDR Deliverables

- Prototype Castle Model
- Prototype game board and UI
- Finalized gameplay
- Code system overview
- PCB design breadboard mock-up

QUESTIONS?

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