In a drama-inducing engaging educational activity, the server runs a central simulation portraying Mr. Vetro, a simulated human being with a collection of simulated organs that are distributed on handhelds. The server gathers data from client simulations and serves as a simulation coordination and visualization tool.

The central simulation is projected to the entire class and therefore serves as a classroom discussion tool.

A Life Signs Monitor keeps track of Mr. Vetro's vital signs and displays them in the form of graphs or numerical values. ECG, heart rate, breathing rate, oxygen saturation, and oxygen delivered to tissue are some of the measures displayed.

In a simulation running on a handheld, a group of students controls the lungs of Mr. Vetro by varying lung parameters such as breathing rate and tidal volume as a response to changing conditions such as exercise and smoking.

Another group of students controls the heart of Mr. Vetro by varying heart parameters such as heart rate and stroke volume to adjust to changing conditions such as increased exercise intensity.

The teacher orchestrates the educational activity by assigning the control of different organs of Mr. Vetro to groups of students, giving them tasks to complete as a team, monitoring progress, and facilitating classroom discussions.

With a wireless network, the handhelds send data to the server.

The C5 architecture enables the development and use of distributed simulations that are compact, customizable, and collective.

Wireless Distributed Simulations enable unique and effective learning activities. Four information technologies (handhelds, desktops, the Web, and end-user programming) are connected into an engaging, inquiry-based learning environment. Innovative content can be used in K-12 educational settings, distance learning and corporate training applications.

Currently under development with NIH Phase II SBIR funding, the distributed simulations run on a variety of platforms: from PCs to PDAs, iMacs to iPAQs, cell phones to... to whatever comes next, we're device friendly, wireless, and platform ready.

What computers are for.

It enables.

It works.

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