

Interview with an

A D U L T E D U C A T O R

HEART Project

(Help educators to teach through robotic tools)

no. 2021-1-PL01-KA220-ADU-000035164

Database and Guide on Educational Robotics

WEBSITE:

- Please, introduce yourself

I am an educator in a university in the Netherlands. I have over 10 years of research and teaching experience and have worked on working with adult caregivers.

- Have you ever worked with robots during your work with adult learners?

I mainly work as an educator in a university, however during my work I only started working with robots 2 years ago, rather than when the robot ZORA began to be in use.

- Can you tell us more about the type of robot you worked with?

I teach mainly students; however I also have my own practice through which I train on an ad hoc basis caregivers on how to use technology and robots, in particular ZORA, when working with elderly people in a care house. This is extremely necessary in the Netherlands as the workforce located in these elderly houses do not have the knowledge on how to make use of educational robots.

- How many times did you use the robot?

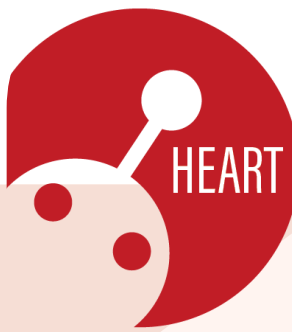
I have worked with Zora now a number of times, as due to the pandemic it was not possible to organize many in-person trainings.

- How and in what contexts your robot be used?

ZORA is designed to help nurses, childcare, and senior care workers. I have mainly worked with ZORA in an elderly care facility setting. In this context. ZORA can provide a wide range of pre-programmed activities which offer a great interaction between the robot and the elderly. Zora can communicate, dance, play games, read aloud, show animation, and do movement exercises. This combination is a reason for care homes to use the robot for gymnastics exercises. Zora demonstrates the exercise and the elderly have to follow it. ZORA is not a replacement for the care staff, but a supplement, because it reduces the workload by performing repetitive tasks, such as sharing the menu of the day, reading the newspaper or animating the bingo in an elderly care facility.



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It is also supporting the medical workers at the facility. For instance, when the elderly are doing an exercise, the physiotherapist or remedial therapist can check the movements of the elderly who are imitating them and correct them if necessary. All in all, ZORA ensures more human contact and interaction, which is highly appreciated by the elderly.

- [If not confidential, what was the costs for implementation](#)

I am not entirely sure what is the full cost for implementation. I know that the robot itself costs around EUR 15000.

- [Have you experienced any problem\(s\) with the robot?](#)

I haven't had any problems with the robot. Mainly the people working in the elderly facility have difficulty understanding it and getting used to it.

- [From your point of view, is this robot suitable for teaching children?](#)

I believe it would be a very interactive manner to teach children with the use of ZORA.

- [From your point of view, is this robot suitable for teaching adult learners with disabilities too?](#)

This robot was not designed in my opinion to specifically help learners with disabilities, however I do think that it has a great potential to be used for teaching adult learners with disabilities.

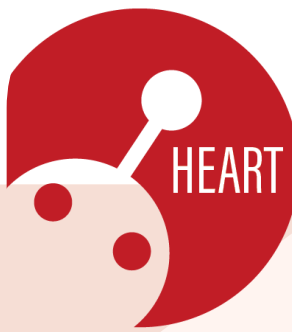
- [Do you personally train other teachers to work with the robot?](#)

I do when I am given the opportunity to do so.

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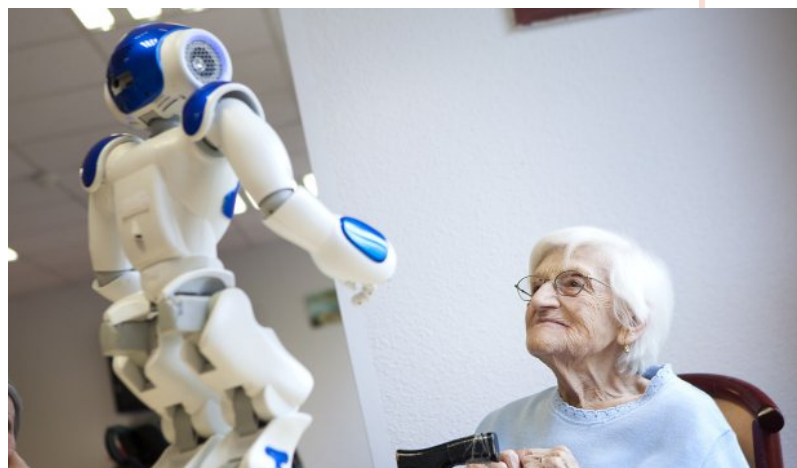
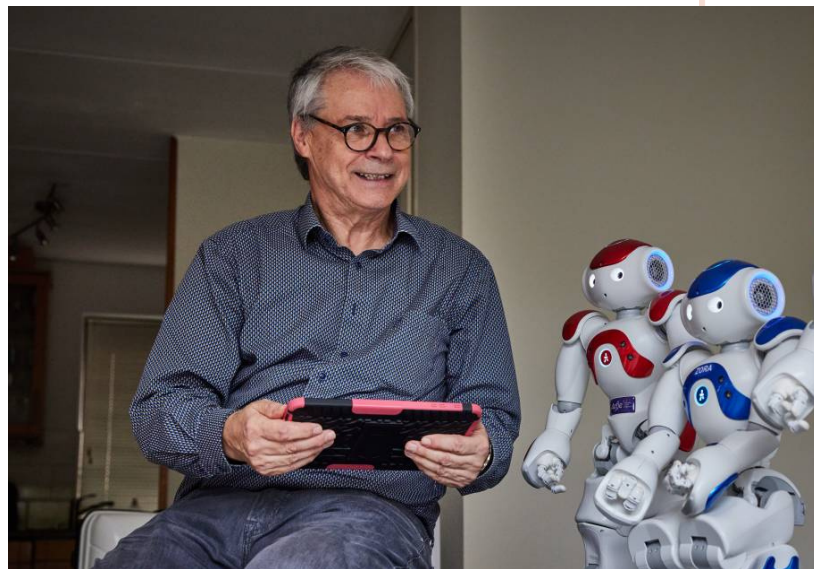
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