It's Friday again and that's when Grandpa comes to pick me up from school! It's our favourite day, as Grandpa and I love exploring the neighbourhoods, looking back on stories of the past, and imagining what the future will be like!

Come experience our adventure through interactive Augmented Reality activities, and learn how technology can help improve our lives!
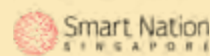
MY FAVOURITE DAYS

FOREWORD

Technology has changed the way we live, work and play. At TOUCH Community Services, we see technology as an enabler for the communities that we serve.

Through our decades of experience in cyber wellness initiatives and early childhood education, we have worked with beneficiaries, both young and old, to promote digital readiness and literacy efforts.

It is said that the key to successful digital adoption often lies with people. As we adopt new technology and tools to keep us connected, many of us will tap on digital mediums to build bonds with our loved ones. This will enable us to play our part to bring Smart Nation to life for our young and showcase how digital transformation can be an exciting journey for all.

In collaboration with Facebook, MeshMinds and the Smart Nation and Digital Government Office, we have developed *My Favourite Days* – an Augmented Reality (AR) storybook that conveys a heart-warming interaction between a little girl and her grandpa through a journey of self-discovery. Young readers will get to stretch their imagination on the future career possibilities offered by technology and be inspired by a future where technology improves lives and opens up fresh opportunities in our work that we would not have imagined!

Through the AR book lens, the future looks to be an exciting one, where lives are enriched through technology, and everyone has a stake in realising these possibilities. I hope that the book will not only plant early seeds amongst our young to realise their dreams with the aid of technology, but also bring families together as we explore a smart future together.

James Tan
Chief Executive Officer
TOUCH Community Services

How to activate the Augmented Reality (AR) effects

1. Scan the QR code on the page to experience the AR effect in Facebook or go to TOUCH Community Services' Instagram account (@touchcommunityservices) to select the relevant effect under the Effects tab.

2. Using your smartphone in portrait mode, point the camera at the page to activate the AR experience. Don't forget to enable audio for the full experience.

3. Once it starts, turn your smartphone to landscape mode for best viewing.

4. AR effect not loading? Try quitting the application and relaunching it again. Check that you have the latest version installed.

For more troubleshooting and detailed instructions, please scan this QR code:

My Favourite Days

Written & Illustrated by illo picto

Fridays are my favourite days. That's when Grandpa picks me up from school and takes me somewhere special.

"Where are we going today, Grandpa?"

"You'll see," he said. "How was school today?"

"It was okay," I sighed.
"But we were stuck indoors all day."

"Indoors?
There is much to discover indoors!"

"In the not-so-distant future, you will be able to travel to the past and future, to every corner of the Earth and galaxies unexplored… without even leaving your desk!"

Can you imagine?

Data gathered from Machine Learning can help teachers understand how well students are doing so that classes can be tailored for each individual.

Virtual Reality (VR) headsets in future classrooms will take learning to another level, transporting students to different worlds, learning as if they are in a different space!

Grandpa and I walked for a long time until he finally stopped and said, "We're here!"

"What's here, Grandpa?"

"This is my old neighbourhood," he said, "you're standing on my favourite climbing tree!"

"Sadly, it fell sick and had to be cut down."

I looked around and tried to imagine Grandpa's childhood.

"I wonder if we can travel to the future and find out what happens to all the trees," I asked.

"Oh, these trees aren't going anywhere!" Grandpa explained. "Scientists can give them all the care they need, thanks to these helper drones. Look at them go!"

Scientists can use helper drones to fly up to the treetops and collect samples. It will be so much easier to keep more trees healthy!

Lamp posts will have sensors that will help keep track of any changes in temperature and rainfall.

Scientist

Can you imagine?
Even you can be a citizen scientist discovering new species of plants and animals by taking photos and using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to identify them.

I started to get tired and my tummy rumbled.

"Was that you or me?" Grandpa asked.

"Come on, time to eat!"

Grrrr.

Grandpa took me to the hawker centre where we could have his favourite carrot cake and ice kachang. Yum!

ASTY DESSERT
01-12

MUTHU DRINK STALL
01-13

01-09 to 13

01-14 to 23

福建虾面
HOKKIEN PRAWN MEE
01-14

海南鸡饭
Hainan Chicken Rice
01-15

The queues were long and the hawkers worked fast.

"They look really hot and tired, don't they Grandpa?" Grandpa turned to me and smiled. "Not only will scientists have help in the future, hawkers too will have extra helping hands."

Food Preparation — Machines can be programmed to prepare ingredients in exactly the same way so each dish will consistently have the same great taste!

Hawker

Sang Nila Power Drink Stall

50% Offer

海南咖喱饭
Hainanese Curry Rice

Heng Heng Aquarium

Order:
HocKien
Prawn Mee
$5.00
Less salt

Original Taste | Salt

Vegetables

Can you imagine?

One day in the future, a robot preparing your hokkien prawn mee won't be such a strange sight! This will take a load off overworked hawkers and give them a much needed break.

"That was so yummy, Grandpa!"

We walked out and patted our bellies.

But when we went up the stairs,
Grandpa patted his back as well.

"Are you okay, Grandpa?
Do you need to go to the doctor?"

"I'm okay, just a little sore from this morning's exercise!" said Grandpa.

Doctor

"And just like how you will be able to travel to faraway places from your classroom in the future,

...we won't need to queue together with everyone as I can visit my doctor from home!" added Grandpa.

Can you imagine?

Telemedicine — Doctors will be able to check in on patients over the internet with the help of health monitors, keeping patients healthy from the comfort of their own homes.

Healthcare Professional

Tele-rehabilitation — Healthcare professionals will be able to offer guided training sessions to patients wherever they may be.

On our way home, Grandpa shared some of the many things he did when he was younger.

"Today was a wonderful day, Grandpa."

"Yes, the future is so exciting, but I'm just thinking about some of my favourite days from the past."

Grandpa pulled out a picture that he carries everywhere he goes and said, "I miss being able to create things for the people around me."

Engineer

"But we've created so many great memories today because of you, Grandpa!"

"Oh yes we did," smiled Grandpa.

Can you imagine?

With [technology](), playgrounds of the future will be interactive and smart, changing their form to suit different weather conditions.

I thought about everything we saw on our walk today and all the stories Grandpa told me. I dreamt of all the things I can build to help the trees, animals and people in my neighbourhood.

One day, just like Grandpa, I can help them by building things better.

Glossary

AI (Artificial Intelligence)
AI builds on machine learning to help machines become smarter and behave more like humans. For example, self-driving vehicles are powered by AI to find the fastest route to its destination and avoid obstacles along the way.

AR (Augmented Reality)
This is when computer-created graphics are layered on to what we see in the real world, just like what you're seeing as you read this book using your smart device!

Citizen Scientists
People who do scientific work without being trained to do so (that could be you!). They could be someone who collects information about a type of plant or animal to learn more about how the natural world works. Citizen scientists could eventually work on projects with professional scientists.

Data
A set of information, whether it's in the form of words, numbers, sounds, pictures, etc. An example of data found in the book is the leaf sample measurements taken with the drone, which scientists use to monitor if a tree is healthy or sick.

Machine Learning
When computers learn what actions to take based on the data it is fed. Facebook, for example, learns to recognise who might be your "friend" and suggests them to you based on the pictures you upload to the platform.

Robot
A machine that can be controlled by people or a computer programme to do specific actions or tasks, like putting in the four wheels of a car in a car assembly line. This makes work a lot easier for us!

Technology
The use of scientific knowledge and discoveries to help us do things better by solving real-life problems, such as a smartphone app that can help you find places you're looking for when in a new neighbourhood.

VR (Virtual Reality)
A "virtual world" created using images and other senses like sound and touch, which are generated by a computer. An example of such a world is when students enter "outer space" while in their classrooms to learn more about the different planets. It is often used with VR headsets.

Discussion Questions

Which is your favourite part of the storybook?
- The adventure that Grandpa and the girl had
- Exploring AR on mobile devices
- The beautiful pictures

After Grandpa picked up the girl from school, where were some of the places they went to?
- Park
- Playground
- Hawker centre

What are some exciting technologies shared in this story?
- VR headsets in future classrooms
- Robots that cook and serve food
- Playgrounds that can change their form to suit different weather conditions
- Helper drones to collect samples from trees
- Healthcare professionals checking in on patients virtually

Looking at the last page, can you spot other possible exciting technologies in the future?
- Tour guide wearing devices that allow real-time translations in multiple languages
- Bus captain directing self-driving buses
- Fireman using robots to fight fires

What are some occupations featured in this story and how does technology help to make the work easier/better?
- Teacher sharing about space in class
- Doctor caring for patients virtually
- Engineer using technology to build a playground that can change its form to suit different weather conditions
- Scientist caring for plants and trees with the help of drones
- Hawker cooking with an extra pair of robot hands

On a new sheet of blank paper, invite readers to respond to the following:

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Imagine and draw what your dream job would look like in the future!