After reading *Astrojumper: Designing a Virtual Reality Exergame to Motivate Children with Autism to Exercise* and *3D-Virtual Reality in Science Education: An Implication for Astronomy Teaching* it has inspired me to think of Virtual Reality as not only a means of entertainment in which a user can limitedly interact with a virtual world but as a learning tool to expand a user’s view of the world.

When I first thought of Virtual Reality, I thought of those head-mounted displays which gave the user limited interactive abilities within the created virtual world meant solely for entertainment purposes such as gaming. I had never thought to use the HMDs as a way to teach children or somehow encourage them to do things like exercise. I think that if given the chance to have such tools integrated into a classroom setting or perhaps even more intimate setting such as an arcade or even a person’s home could increase the user’s desire to learn more of the topic of their choosing.

Imagine a medical student trying to learn the anatomy of a human at home. If that student had a VR set which enabled them to “pick out” pieces of the skeleton and learn what it does and how it works it might be easier to learn about those pieces without all the mess and cleanup a physical skeleton would require. In an addition, they could later on even add the different muscle groups to see how it interacts with the different parts of the skeleton.

I think especially given the vastness of space, being able to use VR as a means to explore it benefits not only the people who are working in that field but also children that are aspiring to join those fields. Children are often curious about the world and the things that they don’t know. By using VR, one could accomplish a number of goals from satisfying a child’s curiosity about a topic to letting them get a tour of NASA from the safety of their own homes. Given that majority of children end up looking at a screen on their free time, be it from looking at their smartphones or their game consoles, why not give them a screen in which they can learn something and entertain themselves?