A picture containing text, clipart

Description automatically generated

**Interação Pessoa-Máquina**

**2021/2022**

**DinoMapa**

Stage 1: Project Proposal

**Uma imagem com mapa

Descrição gerada automaticamente**

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Project Description

As a user there are not many resources available on the mobile format regarding to paleontology. The existing ones usually don’t provide a place where users can learn in a more interactive way. As users, we want a resource that is simple to understand and easy to interact with. The app must be simple enough so that even users that don’t have a greater knowledge in paleontology can understand the information that is given to them and learn. Otherwise, they don’t understand what is presented to them therefore losing interest in the information and the app itself.

As Portuguese users, we look for information regarding our country, given the fact that it is so rich in its palaeontological heritage. Furthermore, some other countries already have a well-documented paleontological heritage with their museums and culture related entities having produced apps for displaying such information, thus stressing the need for a Portuguese counterpart. With this in mind, we would like a Portugal focused app.

Target Users

Anyone with any interest in Portuguese palaeontology should find an interest in this app. Also, anyone with a scientific curiosity looking to learn more about palaeontology in general.

As of now, our demographic should be the ages of 6+.

Project Goal

We are developing a mobile application in Flutter, in order to be compatible with both Android and iOS. This app tries to provide the users an interface to discover and learn more about dinosaurs and fossils in Portugal.

In its home page, it should display a map of Portugal with the different dinosaurs and other fossils pinpointed on it. On the top-right corner there should be a configurations button to access app related settings, still to be determined. In its top-left corner there should be a button to filter the different fossils depending on the certain parameters such as: geologic context and taxonomic classification.

In the bottom of the screen, a bar should exist with a few different buttons, respectively, a button to return to the map page, a button to see a paleontology related feed (such as news), a button for a possible interactive game-like feature and a button to access the user’s favorite fossils and dinosaurs.

Currently, we know of one app that is similar to what we had originally planned, called *Fossil Explorer*. This app shows the nearby fossils of a certain location pinned in the map, but only in Great Britain.

When it comes to its design flaws, it currently shows the entire world map when it would only need Great Britain, given it has no available data for anywhere else in the world (figure 1).

When pinning a point in the map to see the nearby fossils, it shows all the fossils, with the only filtering available being based on the depth in which they were found. This can make it harder for the user to find what they want.

Furthermore, the app is very wordy, becoming boring (figure 2, 3).

Uma imagem com texto

Descrição gerada automaticamenteUma imagem com texto

Descrição gerada automaticamenteUma imagem com mapa

Descrição gerada automaticamente

Figure 1 – Map of world, instead of only Great Britain

Figure 2 – Very wordy Section

Figure 3 – More wordy segments