

Ecopod: Survival overview

Ecopod is played through an application called “ARIS” (Augmented Reality for Interactive Storytelling). The ARIS website is arisgames.org.

Target Audience: Given its treatment of a global pandemic, instances of violence, and the need to fight for survival, this game is most appropriate for secondary and postsecondary learners.

Getting Started: Players will have to download the *ARIS* app on their iPhone or iPad (Android forthcoming). Then, they will make their own username and password to log into *ARIS*. Next, they will go to the search tab below and type in “Ecopod Survival” to find the game. There will be several different language versions that will appear, so learners will have to make sure to choose the version with the appropriate target language. Playtime may vary depending on proficiency, but the game typically takes about 30-40 minutes to complete.

Languages: Chinese (Simplified), English, French, German, Japanese, Spanish

Classroom Connections:

Ecopod connects well with the following concepts and themes:

- disaster preparedness and response
- survival
- illness and contagion
- humanitarian values
- culture
- community
- resources

This game is designed to be a place-based game, but it does not have to be played as such. It can be tied to the University of Oregon location, or players can play it remotely without being tied to a location (though players will need to be stationary for this to work if the GPS is activated on their devices). In order to play, players will need a consistent WiFi or satellite connection.

