Artists Statement Project 2 - Brendan Dutton

In this project I wanted to create a world that makes you feel small. My VR environment takes something we usually ignore, grass, acorns, leaves, and little objects left on the ground, and turns them into something huge and overwhelming. From this new perspective, everyday details suddenly feel alive and important. It's a way of reminding us that scale changes everything about how we see and experience the world.

The sculpted object works as the doorway into this idea. On the surface, it's just a small patch of ground: a sapling, some grass, and an acorn. It looks simple and familiar, something you could imagine holding in your hands. But when you step into the VR world, that small scene becomes a full environment you can walk through. The single acorn next to the sapling in the sculpture transforms into giant acorns scattered across the ground. The blades of grass rise up around you like walls, and the open backyard becomes an endless forest of detail.

That shift from looking at the model as an object to being inside it is really the heart of this project. I wanted the transition to feel like a change in perspective, where something ordinary suddenly becomes something amazing. The VR world builds off the sculpture, but it asks you to see it differently, to step into the shoes of something small and notice how fragile or curious that experience feels.

For me, this was also about empathy. When you're small in VR, even normal things can feel intimidating or magical. A pinecone on the ground becomes the size of your body. A ladybug crawling past grabs your attention in a way it never would in real life. It's easy to forget that perspective changes everything, but VR gives us a chance to experience that shift directly and opens peoples' minds into the world of VR.

By linking the sculpture and the VR environment, I wanted to highlight that relationship between scale, perspective, and imagination. The object introduces the world in miniature, and the VR space lets you live inside it. Together, they create a sense of wonder and curiosity about how different the world can feel when you simply change the size you see it from.



