

ASSENT FORM

Summary of key points:

- This study will take about _____ (*specify length of study*) to complete.
- In this study, you will _____ (*brief, one statement description of what the participant will do*)
- (*briefly describe any potential risks*)
- (*briefly describe any potential benefits*)

You are being invited to take part in a study about _____. You are being invited to participate in this research study because _____.

The person in charge of this study is _____ (*PI*) of _____ (*Affiliation*). (*If the PI is a student, add the following statement:*) He/She is being guided in this study by _____ (*Advisor*). There may be other people helping at different times during the study. (*Include the preceding sentence only if other people are involved in the study, and then identify the other investigators.*)

(Describe the purpose of the study in lay terms.)

(In lay terms, describe where the study will be conducted. Include how many times the participants will be asked to attend and how long the administration will take. If this is a longitudinal study, include the length of time involved).

(Tell the subject what to expect. Describe all procedures in simple language. Provide a timeline for longitudinal studies. Also, explain random selection procedures.)

(If the research involves minimal risk to the subject, include the following statement:)

To the best of my knowledge, the things you will be doing have no more risk of harm than you would experience in everyday life.

(If the research involves procedures that could cause possible physical harm, describe the risks and any consequences that could result should an adverse or negative event occur.)

(If the research involves any procedures that could cause possible emotional or mental harm, include the following statement:)

Although the researcher(s) have/has made every effort to reduce harm, you may find some questions we ask you (or some things we ask you to do) to be upsetting. If so, we can tell you about some people who may be able to help you with these feelings.

(Provide information about contacts. Free services are available through the Counseling Center at NSU.)

(If a conflict of interest exists in the project, please explain; otherwise, use the following or a similar statement to indicate that no conflict of interest exists.)

No one in this study has any financial or personal interest in any company or materials being used.

(If no rewards or payments are granted for participants, use the following statement:) You will not get any personal/financial benefit from taking part in this study.

If you decide to take part in the study, it should be because you really want to volunteer. You will not lose any rights you would normally have if you choose not to volunteer. You can stop at any time during the study and keep the rights you had before volunteering.

(If subjects are students, include the following:)

Your decision to participate or not participate in this study will not affect your grade in any course.

There are no costs associated with taking part in this study.

(Include the following paragraph to explain who will see the information from the study:)

Your information will be combined with information from other children taking part in the study. When we write about the study to share it with other people, we will write about this combined information. You will not be identified in these written materials.

(If the study is anonymous, include the following:)

This study is anonymous. That means that no one, not even members of the study team, will know that the information you give came from you.

(If the study is not anonymous, include the following:)

The researchers will make every effort to prevent anyone who is not on the research team from knowing that you gave us information, or what that information is. For example, your name will be kept separate from the information you give, and these two things will be stored in different places under lock and key.

(Include the following about right to withdraw:)

If you decide to take part in the study you still have the right to decide at any time that you no longer want to continue. You will not be treated differently if you decide to stop taking part in the study.

The researchers conducting the study may need to take you off of the study. They may do this if you are not able to follow the directions they give you, if they find that your being in the study is more risk than benefit to you, or if the agency funding the study decides to stop the study early for a variety of reasons.

(Include the following statement to provide contact information for questions that may arise:)

Before you decide whether to accept this invitation to take part in the study, please ask any questions that might come to mind now. Later, if you have questions about the study, you can contact the investigator, _____ at _____.

