**Child Assent Template**

USE WITH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL AGE PARTICIPANTS

**Instructions: Fill in the information relevant to your study using the prompts in blue. Remove all text in red.**

Although regulations are deliberately flexible with respect to the age and method of seeking the assent of children to participate as research subjects, it is a commonly accepted practice endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics that "assent should usually be obtained from any child with an intellectual age of 7 years or more."

The child assent information may be provided in written form or orally at a reading level that is appropriate for the age of the child. In the event an investigator is working with a significantly diverse age group, the script should be written or explained in terms understandable to the youngest participants. The title does not have to be read to the child unless it is easily understood.

**DELETE all instructions** (including this section) and suggested language that is not applicable, then **UPLOAD a copy of the assent form to the IRB application exactly the way your participants will see it, all text in black.** This will be the official copy that must be used for all participants.

**Assent Form**

My name is (name), and I am (briefly explain who you are in a way that the child will understand).

We are asking you to take part in a research study [OR help us to learn more] about (brief description). We hope this research will (briefly describe the anticipated benefits of the research to society in general.) [If appropriate include (what, if any, direct benefit the child may experience at the end of participation.)]

We are asking you to help because (briefly explain why the participant is being selected for this research).

We will ask you to (briefly explain what will take place from the child’s point of view). [If appropriate: include a sentence about whether or not the procedure will involve any risks & what they are or whether any procedures will be painful and/or the level of discomfort anticipated.)

It will take (estimate of the length of time).

Your parent(s) [OR guardian] have said it is okay for you to (take part in a research study) OR (help us), but you do not have to if you do not want to. If you say yes now and change your mind later, you may tell (name) and nothing bad will happen. There is no penalty for not participating in the study or from withdrawing from the study at any time.

[If recruiting through a K-12 setting/school district: You and your parents/guardians have the right to inspect materials before consenting. The (name of school district) School District is neither conducting nor sponsoring this project.]

Do you have any questions? If you think of a question later, you may ask (name).

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Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Signature (if appropriate)

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Signature of Researcher Date