**ORAL ASSENT SCRIPT TEMPLATE AGES 7 TO 12**

***Tips:***

***Assent:*** *If children between the ages of 7and 12 will be included in the study, verbal assent is necessary using an IRB approved verbal assent script. Age appropriate language should be used (the younger the child, the less information given). Adolescents ages 13-17 must be provided an Adolescent Assent (prepared using the Wayne State University IRB template available on our website) which requires signed documentation of agreement to participate in the study.* ***The use of images is appropriate to facilitate understanding for younger children.***

*If possible, keep the Verbal Informed Assent script to one page or less.*

***Verbal Assent Script:*** *Present age-appropriate research information verbally to obtain verbal assent (the younger the child, the less information given). Once verbal assent is obtained, it is important to regain verbal assent periodically throughout the activity, to account for the shorter timeframe during which children can remain focused on the activity. This can be done by simply asking, “Would you like to continue or would you like to stop?”*

*If using verbal assent, failure to object should not be construed as assent. Be sure to receive a positive response, a ‘yes’ or an affirmative nod of the head. If the child does not want to participate or resists, you must accept that as disapproval to consent. The parent/guardian/teacher may not coerce the child into participating.”*

*All instructions on the Assent script template are in* ***italics****. Please do not include the instructions in the final document.*

**Wayne State University**

**Verbal/Oral Assent Script Template**

**(Insert Research Study Title Here)**

Some researchers *(or students, investigators, or people)* at *(name of Wayne State University affiliate institution)* are doing a project about . This is called a **research study**.

The **purpose** of this research study is *(simple explanation of the goal of the research/what you are trying to find out)*.

You are asked to be in this **research study** because *(simple explanation of why the child is invited to participate/has been chosen as a participant)*.

The **researchers** in charge of this study are *(name investigators)*.

This study will take place at *(state where research will take place)* and will last *(state how long child’s participation will take)*.

During this study, this is **what will happen**: *(simple explanation of procedures. A list often works well*).

*Depending on the length of time for data collection, you might need to mention that the child should tell you if he/she needs to use the restroom, or just needs a break.*

*Mention any* ***risks****,* ***discomforts****, and* ***potential benefits*** *of the study, appropriate for the age level.*

*If confidential questionnaires are involved, add a section such as:*

Only the investigator(s) doing this study will know your answers. Your parents (and perhaps teachers, if the study is conducted at the child’s school) will not know.

*If it seems appropriate, use one of the following:*

You will not be given anything for being in this research study. **OR** You will be given for being in this research study. (*All incentives must be age appropriate and approved by the IRB*.)

**Your (mom/dad/parents/guardians) have said it is okay for you to be in this research study. You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to. If you want to stop, you can tell us by saying, “I would like to stop”.**

***End of verbal script.***

**Verbal assent must be documented by the person obtaining verbal assent on the Parental Permission Consent document.**

**KEEP A COPY OF THIS VERBAL INFORMED ASSENT SCRIPT FOR RECORDS**