

EXAMPLE



INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

STATEMENT OF MINOR ASSENT

[INSERT TITLE & PROTOCOL NUMBER]

EXAMPLE FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILD

Can be read aloud if necessary.

This is an example; the language should be modified for your proposal as necessary.

Two forms must be submitted to the IRB for approval if the proposal involves minors: one form for the parent/guardian and one for the minor. Each form should be written in language appropriate to the educational level of the parent and child.

My name is _____ and I am a researcher at University of Detroit Mercy. I am asking you to take part in a study about what makes you excited to read on your own. I am asking for your permission to interview you five times over the next few months. You may see me writing in a notebook and recording what you say.

If you decide that you want to participate, you will fill out a questionnaire that asks about what you read. It will take you about 20 minutes to answer all of the questions. *[Insert if appropriate: You will receive _____ when you complete the questionnaire.]*

If you decide to fill out the questionnaire but do not want to answer certain questions, that is okay. You can just leave them blank. If you decide to start answering questions and then decide to stop, that is okay, too. None of the responses you give will have your name on them and you will not be identified in any written materials.

If you do not want to participate, no one will treat you and differently, and no one will know unless you tell them.

EXAMPLE

[Sometimes needed with minors when interviewing about high risk behaviors: The only exception to this would be if in talking to you, the researchers find that there is something happening in your life that is an immediate and serious danger to your health or physical safety. In that case, your parents or another professional might have to be contacted. We would always talk to you about this first.]

You can ask questions now or while you are doing the questionnaire. If you have questions after completing the study, your parents or guardians have your teacher's contact information.

STATEMENT OF ASSENT:

You can ask questions now or during the study. If you have questions after completing the study, your parents or guardians have my contact information.

Signature of participant (under 18)

Date

Printed name

Birthdate

Signature of witness (18 years of age or older)

Date