

SAMPLE Parental Permission Form

Dear parent or legal guardian:

We are requesting that you permit your child _____ to be invited to participate in a research study on the ease of reading materials useful in research for young people in the State of Louisiana. Our names are _____ . We are researchers from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette in Lafayette, Louisiana. Your name was obtained from the school your child attends and was drawn at random by a representative of your child's school. We will also ask your child to assent to join in the research study and sign a form for his or her participation.

We will administer questionnaires on two different days one month apart. The forms will be numbered on each page so that all the parts of the survey form can be kept together. Your child's name will appear only on the front page and after completing the form the second time, that page will be given to the child to keep or destroy as he or she sees fit. Your child will be told not to write his or her name anywhere on the survey forms.

There is no real benefit to your child. The benefit is in helping the researchers make research easier for children in Louisiana in the future. The only risk to your child is that he or she will have to spend time answering the surveys on two occasions and may become bored or tired of doing that. The surveys will be given out during a class period and will take about 30 minutes to complete.

The researchers expect to publish the results of the surveys in a professional journal, but at no time will the names of your child or of any child participating in the study be made public. Only the results of all the participants as a group will be published. The surveys will be locked in a filing cabinet in the researchers' office until the results have been entered into the computer and then the surveys destroyed by shredding.

Your child's participation in this research is strictly voluntary and he or she may refuse to participate or to discontinue his or her participation at any time during the study without bias or any problems from the school, from The university or from the researchers.

If you have any questions about this research or wish to speak with the researchers, please do not hesitate to call _____. If we are not at the telephone please leave a message on the voice mail and one of us will contact you as soon as possible.

PERMISSION:

I understand that my child's name has been drawn at random from his or her school to participate in a research study. He or she may fill out survey forms two times one month apart. I also understand that my child is participating voluntarily and may refuse to participate and/or may withdraw at any time during the study. I agree to allow the researchers to invite my child to participate in the study.

Name _____ Date: _____

My relationship to the child is: _____

I have the legal right to consent for my child to participate in research.