**VERBAL/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). **The use of images is appropriate to facilitate understanding for younger children.**

If possible, keep the verbal assent script to one page or less.

Once verbal assent is obtained, it is important to reaffirm 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 may not coerce the child into participating.”

**Instructional language for investigators noted in red. Remove this page and any instructional information from the final version of the script before uploading to the application for IRB review.**

**Verbal/Oral Assent Script Template**

**For Children Ages 7 – 12**

**(Insert Research Study Title Here)**

Some researchers at Central Michigan Universityare doing a project about (Insert age appropriate language to describe project). This is called a **research study**.

The **purpose** of this research study is (Insert simple explanation of the goal of the research and 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**:

1. Provide a simple explanation of procedures; list form often works well
2. 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.
3. 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 mom/dad/parents/guardian will not know.

Compensation information provided to the child must be included if applicable:

You will be given (describe compensation) for being in this research study.

**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”.**

**To be completed by person obtaining assent:**

Has the minor subject indicated they want to be in the study?[ ]  *Yes [ ]  No*

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Print Name of Child

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Signature of Person Explaining Assent Date