**Child Assent Template**

**This template is used if**:

1. Your research includes children 18 and younger, herein referred to as “**minors,**” **and**
2. Your research will not pose more than minimal risk to said minors, **and**
3. You will obtain parental/guardian consent for minors for research.
4. The minors capable of assent are if information is worded in an age appropriate language and on minor’s level of understanding.

**This template is NOT used if**:

1. There is a greater than minimal risk posed to minors participating in your research **and/or**
2. Your research includes only adult subjects.

**Only information that is relevant and will apply to your study should be included on the consent form.**

**Using the Assent Template - Red Guidance Text**

1. Prior to reading the attached to the participant, all areas in red should be completed/updated with the appropriate information by researcher; red text which is not relevant or is unnecessary to your study can be deleted. No red text should be left when you complete the form.
2. This is a template only, but language should consider minor’s age and level of understanding. Edit if necessary.
3. **PROOF READ** the assent form prior to submission! This includes proofing for spelling, grammatical, and formatting errors that may require resubmission for corrections and delay the approval process.

**Child Assent Template**

***(Read to the child)***

My name is [*identify yourself to the child by name*] and I am a teacher/student at Caldwell University and I work with children and parents. Right now, I am trying to learn more about [*provide a simple explanation of what the study is about in language that is appropriate to both the child’s maturity and age*] and so I’m asking a group of children if they would like to participate.

If you agree (and your parents give permission), you will be asked to [*describe what will take place using appropriate language from the child’s point of view, including the time involved*].

This may help us understand [*describe topic*] or [*say what direct benefits are to child*].

[*If the study takes place in a school, children should know that:*]

If you do agree to participate, you should know that your [teacher and classmates] won’t know what you have [*e.g., said, drawn, chosen; whatever the child is being asked to do*]. If you decide to help us or if you decide to say “no,” your choice will not affect [*your grades, or whether people like you, or an appropriate statement for the age group*].

[*If the study involves specific questions:*]

There are no right or wrong answers.

Please talk this over with your parents before you decide if you want to be in my study or not.

I will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to be in this study, but even if your parents say “yes,” you can still say “no” and decide not to be in the study. If you don’t want to be in my study, you don’t have to be in it. Remember, it is up to you and no one will be upset if you don’t want to do this. Even if you decide to stop after we begin, that’s okay, too.

If you decide to participate and you get tired or bored, you can tell (me/us) you want to stop for a while and we’ll take a break. [If applicable:] And remember: no one, not even your parents, will know what you’ve [*e.g., said, drawn, chosen, written; whatever the child is being asked to do.*]

You can ask any questions that you have about what we’re doing. If you have a question later that you didn’t think of now, you or your parents can call me or ask [*your parents, teachers,* *whoever the child may choose*] to call me at: [*insert telephone number*].

Would you like to [*e.g., play a game, talk to me, draw a picture; whatever the activity is*]?

[Child answers yes or no; only a definite yes may be taken as assent to participate.]