EXAMPLE Child Assent to Participate in Research

You are being invited to participate in a research study about what children think about research. You were selected because you attend a grade school, a middle school or a high school in the state of Louisiana. Your name was chosen at random from the list of students in this school. And your parents have agreed you may be part of the study if you would like to do so. You are not required to be part of this study even though your parents have consented. You may say no at the start or at any time after you have begun, even if you have finished the forms. You will be asked to fill out the forms again in one month, but you may refuse at that time. We ask you to consider filling out the forms because it will help researchers in the future to understand what helps young people to participate in research. If you choose not to be part of the study nothing will happen to you at your school, or at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette and one will say anything to you for not being in the study.

There will not be any particular benefit to you for doing these forms, but other children who take part in research may have an easier time of it from your answers. There is little risk, only that of having to answer questions about your likes and dislikes in written materials. It will take some time to complete the forms and this may seem long to you.

The findings from the study will be written up for a journal by the researchers but your name will never appear in the reports. The numbers on the forms are to keep them together. When you do the forms the second time, the front page will be given to you to keep or to throw away as you like. After all the information from the forms are in the computer the forms will be shredded.

If you or your parents wish more information about the research you may call Dr. Alpha at 482-1234 or Ms Beta at 482-3456 at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette.

Child’s ASSENT to Participate:

I Agree to be a part of the research study.

Signed ___________________________ Date: ___________________________