Assent to Participate in a Research Study
(Ages: 6 and Under)
Pitzer College

Language in consent procedures should always be suitable for the population to be studied and this is especially important when assent is to be obtained from young children whose ability to understand technical or complex language is limited. The language that is appropriate for 2-6 year olds, 7-13 year olds, and 14-17 year olds will differ considerably. Examples are provided for children aged 2-6 years and 14-17 years. Consultation with experts in child development and with the chair of the IRB is encouraged prior to submission of applications requiring child assent procedures.

Sample Assent Form

We’re going to play a short game (or ask you some questions), (explain what will be done). Would you like to play the game (or answer questions) with us? YES ____ NO____

You can stop anytime and you don’t have to answer any questions you do not want to answer.