**Assent Template for Children Ages 7-10 (version 1/29/2019): To be used for subjects who are children ages 7-10 and who are enrolled in research studies that require expedited or full committee review. Children in this age group require an assent document with more simplified language than older children. Assent for children ages 7-10 is usually a verbal process using a written verbal script and a signature is not required. Please refer to our other assent templates for ages 14-17 and ages 11-13 for children outside this age group.**

**Children *are persons who have not attained the legal age for consent to treatments or procedures involved in the research, under the applicable law of the jurisdiction in which the research will be conducted.***

***Assent means a child's affirmative agreement to participate in research. Mere failure to object should not, absent affirmative agreement, be construed as assent.***

***Remove this text, the instruction text below, or instructions imbedded in the document from the final document submitted to the IRB and used for subjects. If you are submitting the research for an exemption determination, then you should use the template for the Information Sheet for Exempt Studies to obtain the child’s agreement to be in the study, not this template.***

***The IRB requires that the format (below) be used and that the document is printed on normal paper, not letterhead. The IRB plans to use the electronic approval stamp in this template. The document will be converted to a PDF and sent back to the Principal Investigator (PI) for use in the research.* The PI must use the stamped approved copy of the assent document with subjects.**

***General instructions:***

1. ***The revised Federal regulations that became effective January 21, 2019 introduce several new elements of consent, which may not be included below in the template due to this template being applicable to younger children. If you are not familiar with the new consent requirements, please review the*** *“*Instructions for Completing the Assent Templates” ***for a summary of the current requirements.***
2. ***The information should be provided to subjects in language that they will understand, meaning lay language at a reading level appropriate for the age, maturity level, and reading capabilities of the child (subject target population) being recruited for the research. For older children we have different assent templates in which the language level may be at a higher level.***
3. ***The assent document should provide enough information about the study to the child so that he/she can decide whether or not to participate in the research.***
4. ***Remove the brackets for inserting text from the final document. Remove any information that does not apply to your research. Convert all text to black print.***
5. ***Be sure to complete the title for the research. The title should match the one on the application; unless there is a specific reason for an altered title (i.e. deception will be used in the research).***
6. ***If you are conducting research in a foreign country or with non-English speaking subjects, you should consider what will be the best method for a subject to contact you, especially as most research questions will arise during the actual conduct of the research (e.g. when you are in that foreign location). Considerations may include presence of technology in that area of the world, the economic cost of making an international phone call, or what is affordable for your target population. For phone numbers, be sure to include the international code.***
7. ***The document submitted to the IRB should have a running footer (present on all pages), which contains a version date and page numbers in the X of Y format. If the document is revised, it should be given a new version date. Ensure that the auto-update function for dates is turned off in the document so that it will not change to the current date every time you open the document. If you will be using multiple versions on a document, note the version after the date (e.g., “Version 7/22/13 – Interview”; “Version 7/22/13 – Survey”).***
8. ***In general, assent for children ages 7-10 is usually a verbal process using a written script. Therefore, the signature lines on the document are for the person obtaining assent to document that it was obtained.***
9. ***In accordance with the DePaul Editorial Style Guide and current practices in the field of human subjects, please do not use the prefix Dr. for persons with a PhD degree in the body of the consent document. To the general public, Dr. means a medical doctor and particularly when a research study might involve some biomedical aspects, a prospective subject could misinterpret the Dr. as meaning you have medical knowledge and can provide medical advice.***

**ASSENT FOR CHILDREN TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH**

**AGES 7-10**

**[TITLE OF STUDY]**

My name is [insert the name of the researcher]. I am trying to learn more about [insert a very simple explanation of the research topic] because [explain the purpose of the research in age appropriate language].

We are asking you to be in the study because [insert a simplified explanation of why you are asking this child.]

We hope to have [X number] of children like you in this research.

If you are in the research, this is what will happen:

[*Insert a very simplified explanation of what is involved in being in the research. Some sample language is provided:*

* We will have you…
* We will ask you…
* We will look at your school records and record your test scores….
* We will record what you say to us.]

The research will take [x minutes, hours, days, months or X number of visits that each last x minutes, hours.]

We [do not know for sure if you will be helped by being in this study, do not think you personally will be helped by being in this study.] But we could learn something [that will help other children, your teachers, or about X.]

The risks or bad things that may happen are:

[*Some sample statements are provided, but these are to be adapted to the actual risks to the research that you outline in the application.]*

* You could feel uncomfortable, afraid, lonely, or hurt. You can stop the study at any time you want to.
* Some kids feel….
* Sometimes the questions we ask can make you feel embarrassed or uncomfortable. You do not need to answer any questions you do not want to.
* You may get a bruise and feel some pain when we are drawing blood.

Both you and your parent (guardian) must agree to you being in the study. Even if your parent or guardian says yes, you may still say no. You do not have to be in this study if you do not want to. Nothing bad will happen to you if you say no now or change your mind later after starting the study. You just need to tell us if you want to stop being in the study.

[*If the research takes place in a classroom setting or another type of setting in which the child’s normal activities are interrupted, explain to the child that if they are not in the study, what their options are.* For example: Instead of being in this study you may [insert a description of available alternatives, i.e. do your school work, play, leave and go home.]

If you are in the study, you will be paid [insert and explanation of the payment plan]. It will not cost you or your parent (guardian) anything to be in the research.

We will keep the information we collect for the study safe. We will not share information that has your name on it with people who are not part of the research team, unless we have to. [Insert if applicable, as every employee of DePaul is now a mandated reporter under state law:

Sometimes we have to tell other people your information because the law says we have to show your information to a court or to tell authorities if you report information about being abused or neglected or if you pose a danger to yourself or someone else.]

If you have questions, you can contact the researcher, [insert your name and phone number, and email, and if appropriate the faculty sponsor’s name and contact information].

If you want to talk to someone else besides the researcher you may contact Susan Loess-Perez, DePaul University’s Director of Research Compliance, in the Office of Research Services at 312-362-7593 or by email at sloesspe@depaul.edu.

***You will be given a copy of this information to keep for your records.***

**Assent Statement**

[If applicable, as a way to document the process occurred.] The child is not capable of reading the assent form, but the information was verbally explained to him/her. The child had an opportunity to ask questions and indicated his/her assent.

Signature of Person Obtaining Assent:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Printed name of Person Obtaining Assent: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Child: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Age: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_