

University of Southern California  
Neurology Department

**ASSENT TO BE IN RESEARCH (MRI STUDY)**

*Dyslexia and the reading network*

1. My name is\_\_\_\_\_.
2. We are asking you to take part in a research study because we are trying to learn more about the way the brain works when you are reading and taking tests.
3. If you decide to be in this study:
  - a) First, you will come in and visit us so that we can show you the magnet (the MRI machine) that will take pictures of your brain. We may also practice a few tasks so you know what to do when you are in the MRI machine. We can also play the noises the MRI will make for you so you know what it will sound like when you are in the MRI machine.
  - b) Next, you will meet with a scientist who will ask you some questions while your parents are answering some questions in a separate room.
  - c) After the testing is complete we will walk to the MRI room and prepare you for your scan.
  - d) Before we go near the magnet, we will ask you to take out all metal things that are in your pockets, such as coins, pens, or toys. We'll also have you take off any necklaces, bracelets, earrings, or other jewelry.
  - e) You will lie down on a table that slides into the magnet, and the research staff will give you some headphones so that you can listen to sounds.
  - f) The study staff will be able to see and hear you the whole time you are in the magnet, and they will talk to you too. You will have a special button that you can press if you get scared and you want to be finished.
  - g) Your parent may stay with you in the MRI room if you would like.
  - h) While the magnet is taking pictures of your brain, you will be able to watch a DVD of your choice.
  - i) During the second type of MRI scan we will ask you to answer questions. We will give you what looks like a video game controller and you will press a button when you are ready to answer. We will do some testing in a different office to help us find out more information about how well you read. Some of these tests will be like games, but others might be kind of hard. Remember to try your best, but if you get tired and want to stop, we will let you.
  - j) We will also ask you to spit in to a tube to give us a little bit of saliva.
4. Sometimes things happen in research studies. The magnet that takes pictures of your brain is very safe. You might feel like the space that you are laying in is a little small, but if you don't feel good and want to stop, we will come get you right away. Also, we make sure that you don't have any metal on you before you go near the magnet. This is because the magnet pulls

on metal and we don't want any bad things to happen. Some of these things might happen to you or they might not. Or things might happen that we don't know about yet.

5. People also have good things happen to them when they are in research studies. Being in this research may not help you right now. When we finish the research, we hope that we will know more about the way the brain works. In the future, this may help other children who have problems with their brain.
6. You will receive \$25 per hour, and a toy prize worth about \$25.
7. Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to take part in this study. We will also ask your parents to give their permission for you to take part in this study. But even if your parents say "yes" you can still decide not to do this.
8. If you don't want to be in this study, you don't have to. You may stop being in this study any time. Remember, being in this study is up to you and no one will be upset if you don't want to take part in this study or even if you change your mind later and want to stop.
9. You can ask any questions that you have about the study. If you have a question later that you didn't think of now, you can call me at (323) 442-7246 or ask me next time.
10. Putting your name at the bottom means that you have decided to be in this study. You and your parents will be given a copy of this form after you have signed it.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Please put your name here ↑)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*Name of Person Obtaining Assent

\_\_\_\_\_  
\*Signature of Person Obtaining Assent

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date (must be same as Participant's)