*NOTE: Informed assent documents are declarative documents. They must not be created in a Q&A style. The statements and questions below are for guidance only.*

Informed Assent for minors/children 8-17 years of age

The informed assent document should be written at an age-appropriate reading level to ensure that the population intended to comprehend it (children) can do so. Scale back on the use of jargon, sophisticated language, advanced terminology, and complex sentence structures. State things simply, directly, and concisely. You can scale back on the amount of detail that’s typically provided. [Note: This section should be REMOVED from the document if you are using this as a template].

**Title of project/study: \***Should be stated. However, the title may be modified to disguise the true nature of a study, as needed,

for an experimental design. If this occurs, there must be debriefing at the end of the study to make participants aware of what

the study was truly measuring/doing.

**Principal Investigator’s (PI) Name:** Should be overtly stated.

**PI’s University Affiliation and Title:** Should be overtly stated.

1. **Purpose of the research/study:** Brief, age-appropriate description…
2. **Procedures to be followed:** What will participants be expected to do in this study?
3. **Potential risks or discomforts to participants:** (should be minimal for most studies).

If you need to talk to someone during or after participating in this study for any reason, please ask the researcher for assistance. You may also contact your School Counselor [Provide name and contact information] or call the suicide prevention lifeline at 1-800-273-TALK (8255), or text HOME to 741741 to connect with a Crisis Counselor.

1. **Potential benefits to participants:** Outline any, if applicable.
2. **Duration/time requirement for participants:** provide a rough estimate of the time commitment for participants.
3. **Confidentiality and anonymity protections provided to participants:** Explain how the researchers will use codes or pseudonyms to shield the identity of participants. Briefly explain that access to the data is restricted and security provisions are in place (use of passwords, etc.).
4. **A description of incentives, payments, or rewards provided to participants, if any:** None?
5. **Contact information:** [Name, title, email address, phone number]
   1. Your name, Principal Investigator, Ship email address, do not use your personal cell phone number.
   2. The name of your research advisor (if a student), Research Advisor, ship email address, ship office phone #
   3. The name of the current IRB Chair, IRB Chair, [IRB@ship.edu](mailto:IRB@ship.edu), phone #
6. **Voluntary Participation:** Participation is voluntary. Either you or your parent/legal guardian can withdraw you at any time from this study without penalty. In addition, for survey-type research, you are not required to answer any item(s) that you do not wish to answer.
7. **Eligibility:** Yourparent or legal guardian must be at least 18 years of age and is required to provide consent for you to be eligible to participate in this study. You are required to also give your assent to participate too. By completing this form, you are consenting to participate in this study but can quit at any time.

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Child’s name (printed)

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Child’s signature Date

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Parent or legal guardian’s name (printed)