



# Implied Consent Letter of Information



Youth Science Canada  
Sciences jeunesse Canada

## SAMPLE

Name of School: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Dear Parents,

Each year the students at our school work on creating and testing a science fair topic of their choice. Often the chosen topics require the testing of other students. Anyone who participates in a science fair project must agree to do so beforehand. If they are under 18, their parents must give permission too. Typical projects involve such activities as memorizing numbers, giving an opinion about a situation or playing a game on a computer. Your child gives permission by the simple act of participating. This is called Implied Consent. If you are willing to give permission for your son/ daughter to take part in the following experiments please sign the Implied Consent form accompanying this letter.

2. Experiments your child's class will be taking part in include:

3. **Purpose of the Project**

This project will give the students the opportunity to explore how science is done, and to practice these skills, which will be of significant value later in their careers.

- Ask a question;
- Design an experiment or study;
- Collect some data;
- Display it in a table or chart;
- Present it to others.

4. **Benefits from Participating**

They are helping each other with their projects.

5. **Risks from Participating**

None

6. **Time Commitment Required**

Typically this is 10 – 30 minutes

7. **Remuneration**

There is no gift or remuneration given for participating.

## **8. Confidentiality of Data**

The data presented will not identify the individuals who participate. Gender and age may be published. All data will be deleted from the computer, and any paper copies shredded after the science fair.

## **9. Withdrawing from the project**

Your child is free to withdraw from the project at any time and for any reason whatsoever. Just let the teacher know, or just say, "No, I prefer not to participate".

## **10. Results**

Feedback of results will be given to any interested participants after the results have been published at the School Fair

## **11. Youth Science Canada National Ethics Committee**

More details on the rules for projects involving humans can be found here:

<http://youthscience.ca/node/835>

## **12. Parental Approval**

By signing the *Implied Consent Permission Form*, you are agreeing to allow your child to participate in any project identified as very low risk by the teacher, and listed in section 1 on the Implied Consent form accompanying this letter.

### Note:

Some projects contain an element of risk.

Identifying projects that are of very low risk is the responsibility of the teacher. Here are two examples of projects that may cause issues for some participants.

(a) A project that requires participants to eat or drink contains an element of risk due to the rare possibility of allergic reactions.

(b) A project that measures the body mass index of students may cause anxiety to some students who perceive themselves to be overweight.

In projects that involve an element of risk, a Letter of Permission for that individual project is required from all participants. These projects are not included in the Implied Consent form. The teacher will seek advice from the Ethics Committee of the WWSEF in cases where projects may involve some risk and act accordingly.



# Implied Consent Permission Form

Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I have received and read the *Letter of Information for Implied Consent*, which is mine to keep. All my questions have been answered to my satisfaction, and I agree to participate.

Name of Participant (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Participant: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent of Guardian \* (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent of Guardian \* : \_\_\_\_\_

Name of person obtaining consent (print): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person obtaining consent: \_\_\_\_\_

Note:

\* If the participant is under the age of 18, then a parent or guardian must also give permission by signing this form.

This Implied Consent Form contains confidential data, and so must be secured at the home of the Adult Supervisor, whose signature on the Human Participation Form confirms that Implied Consent has been obtained.

All Implied Consent Forms must be shredded after the project is no longer needed for Science Fairs.