April 8, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Your child is participating in a program that is intended to support their literacy (reading and writing) knowledge and skills. All participating children in this program will be developing the necessary strategies and skills for reading challenging school-based texts in order to increase academic reading abilities and college and career readiness.

From July 8th until August 1st 2019, research activities will be taking place at the Gevirtz Graduate School of Education at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Children involved in the McEnroe Reading & Language Arts summer camp will have the opportunity to share their thoughts about various multimedia infographics. Children will also have the opportunity to show their growth and achievement during this program through online assessments.

We request your permission to research your child’s growth. The purpose of this study is to understand how children develop the literacy and thinking skills related to this summer program for strategy development and assessment. If you give permission for your child to participate in this study, we will analyze your child’s responses to assessments that help us learn about the different perceptions of reading and strategies used to understand challenging texts. In order to understand how much growth children have demonstrated from this program, we wish to include school-based assessments in our analysis. There are no additional tasks or activities needed to participate in this research. We merely would like to research the activities that are a natural part of this program. We want every child to have the opportunity to help us learn about best practices for supporting literacy development.

Children who do not wish to be part of the research study (or do not have parental permission) will still be included in program activities at the McEnroe Reading & Language Arts summer camp; however, no data will be collected from these students.

RISKS: Your child may become uncomfortable being assessed, even if the assessment is not meant to be long or strenuous. If at any time your child decides that he or she does not wish to continue participating in the research, he or she may decide to sit at a table and participate in other activities not related to online assessments.

BENEFITS: There are no direct benefits to participating in this study. Indirect benefits will be the insights gained for supporting children’s literacy skill and knowledge development for teachers, parents and school leaders.
CONFIDENTIALITY: In any written publications that come from this data, no identifying details or names will be included. Pseudonyms will be used for all participants. Absolute confidentiality cannot be guaranteed since research documents are not protected from subpoena. Original assessment data will only be viewed by the research team.

As with all research projects and interactions with children at UCSB, state law mandates that any knowledge or suspicion of child abuse is reported.

RIGHT TO REFUSE OR WITHDRAW:
This research study is optional and will not affect your child’s participation in this program. Children who do not wish to be part of the research study will still be included in all program activities. You can change your mind about being in the study and remove your child after the study has started.

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions about this research project or if you think you may have been injured as a result of your participation, please contact: Diana Arya (805-893-2185; darya@ucsb.edu).

If you have any questions regarding your rights and participation as a research subject, please contact the Human Subjects Committee at (805) 893-3807 orhsc@research.ucsb.edu. Or write to the University of California, Human Subjects Committee, Office of Research, Santa Barbara, CA 93106-2050.

PARTICIPATION IN RESEARCH IS VOLUNTARY. YOUR SIGNATURE WILL INDICATE THAT YOU HAVE DECIDED TO ALLOW YOUR CHILD TO PARTICIPATE AS A RESEARCH SUBJECT IN THE STUDY DESCRIBED ABOVE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN A SIGNED AND DATED COPY OF THIS FORM TO KEEP.

Signature of Participant or Legal Representative:

_________________________________________________________________________ Date: ________ Time: ___