

ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH

Supporting Computational Problem Solving for Early High School Students

1. The researcher responsible for this study's name is Dr. Hal Abelson, a professor at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).
2. We are asking you to take part in a research study because we are trying to learn more about how to teach computational thinking and programming to students in a better way.
3. If you agree to be in this study we will ask you to do one or more of the following things:
 - Answer oral and written questions about computational thinking and programming concepts.
 - Use a computer program that was designed to teach programming.
 - Provide your opinion about the computer program design, interface, or content.
 - Discuss your previous and current programming experiences.
 - As part of this curriculum, you will be audio or video recorded during the programming lessons and in after-class group interviews.

4. We do not believe that there are any significant risks to you if you participate in the study. We will make sure that your personal information is not shared with others, and will never use your name when we talk about this research study.
5. We hope that participating in this study will give you a better understanding of computational and engineering thinking, which may help you with your schoolwork. However, we cannot promise that it will give you any benefit.
6. Please talk this over with your parents before you decide whether or not to participate. 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.
7. If you don't want to be in this study, you don't have to participate. Remember, being in this study is up to you and no one will be upset if you don't want to participate or even if you change your mind later and want to stop. Your choice to participate or not will not affect your grades in any way.
8. You can ask any questions that you have about the study now. If you have a question later that you didn't think of now, you can call the lead researcher, Hal Abelson at 617-253-5856 or ask me next time. You can also call the Chairman of the Committee on the Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects at M.I.T. at 1-617-253 6787 if you feel you have been treated unfairly.
9. Signing your name at the bottom means that you agree to be in this study. You and your parents will be given a copy of this form after you have signed it.

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Please check the boxes next to the things that you are agreeing to participate in

- The general study, which includes:
- Answering oral and written questions about computational thinking and programming concepts.
 - Using a computer program that was designed to teach programming.
 - Providing your opinion about the computer program design, interface, or content.
 - Discussing your current or previous programming experiences.
- Being audio and video recorded during classroom programming lessons and in after-class group interviews

Name of Subject (Student's Name)

Student's Signature

Date

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR

In my judgment, the subject is voluntarily and knowingly giving informed consent and possesses the legal capacity to give informed consent to participate in this research study.

Signature of Investigator

Date

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