

Teacher Consent Form

Project Title	ScienceBEAT: A joint research project with the University of Maryland and Prince George's County Public Schools
Purpose of the Study	<p><i>This research is being conducted by a team of researchers at the University of Maryland, College Park led by Dr. Ronald A. Yaros in the Philip Merrill College of Journalism. We are inviting you and your class to participate in this research project because your students are completing a unit on improving his/her understanding of climate change in earth science or English/journalism class. The purpose of this research project is to investigate the use of a reading and writing strategies that focus on improving students' understanding of the many dimensions of climate change.</i></p>
Procedures	<p><i>The procedures in this study, which take place between December 2015 and May 2016, will include the following expectations for you as teacher. With your guidance, your classroom will participate in six interactive modules about climate change. Specifically, you will:</i></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>1) Be offered the opportunity to attend two 3-hour PAID workshops to assist researchers in the development of modules. One workshop will be offered on the UMD campus in December 2015 and the second will be arranged during the spring of 2016 at a time and location convenient for you and your colleagues in the Prince George's Public School District. Should you choose to attend both workshops, you receive \$100 in compensation (by check issued from UMD) in exchange for your time and contribution.</i><i>2) Discuss and assess students' reading and writing strategies by asking them to analyze several articles;</i><i>3) Guide the students' research of arguments, news coverage and scientific data related to climate change;</i><i>4) Guide students in preparing drafts of informational text, often with multimedia projects that help to explain climate change;</i><i>5) Assist students in revising their drafts;</i><i>6) Require students to submit a final draft with multimedia when assigned;</i><i>7) Assign peer review of work produced by other participating students</i> <p><i>The text and multimedia assignments will be used for research purposes only. Any scores on any tests should not be used to assess student work for the class.</i></p> <p><i>The researchers will be surveying you and your students through brief pre and post-tests for each of the six modules, and analyzing the student work produced. Throughout the study, the researchers will be available to answer questions, and you may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.</i></p>

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Potential Risks and Discomforts	<p><i>If you choose to participate in the proposed study, some risks include possible student anxiety that may develop from the tasks to produce text and/or multimedia on deadline.</i></p> <p><i>We will attempt to address this possible risk by providing supporting materials to you that explain the importance of deadlines in “the real world.”</i></p> <p><i>You will remind your students that the assignments related to this climate change project will not be assessed for a grade. Any scores on any tests will not be used to assess student work.</i></p> <p><i>You will also encourage your students to ask questions and seek clarification and will also mention to your students that he/she may withdraw from the study at any time without penalty.</i></p> <p><i>Finally, all data are confidential and are stored in password-protected computers and locked filing cabinets. If any reports or articles are developed from this study, confidentiality will be protected through the use of code numbers and/or pseudonyms.</i></p>
Potential Benefits	<p><i>There are no direct benefits to participants. However, possible benefits include the opportunity for your students to learn more efficient and effective reading and writing strategies that will help him/her become a more strategic reader of informational text and a more effective producer of informational media. We hope that, in the future, other people might benefit from the results from this study through improved understanding of reading informational texts and writing and producing information text and media.</i></p>
Confidentiality	<p><i>Any potential loss of confidentiality will be minimized by keeping your students’ information and responses confidential, including storing all paper data (notes and transcripts), audiotapes and videotapes in password protected flash drives and computers and locked filing cabinets with researcher access only. After ten (10) years, any digital data will be deleted, and hard copies of data will be shredded. If a report or article develops from this research, your students’ identities will be protected to the maximum extent possible through the use of pseudonyms assigned at the beginning of the study. Your students’ names will not be used at any time during data analyses.</i></p> <p><i>If we write a report or article about this research project, your identity and your students’ identities will be protected to the maximum extent possible. Your information may be shared with representatives of the University of Maryland, College Park or governmental authorities if you or someone else is in danger or if we are required to do so by law.</i></p> <p><i>In accordance with federal, state and university legal requirements and/or professional standards, I will disclose to appropriate authorities and individuals information that comes to my attention concerning child abuse or neglect or potential harm to your child or others.</i></p>
Medical Treatment	<p><i>The University of Maryland does not provide any medical, hospitalization or other insurance for participants in this research study, nor will the University of Maryland provide any medical treatment or compensation for any injury sustained as a result of participation in this research study, except as required by law.</i></p>
Right to Withdraw and Questions	<p><i>Your participation in this research is completely voluntary. You may choose not to take part at all. If you decide to participate in this research, you may stop</i></p>

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	<p><i>participating at any time. If decide not to participate in this study or if you stop participating at any time, you will not be penalized or lose any benefits to which you otherwise qualify.</i></p> <p><i>If you decide to stop taking part in the study, if you have questions, concerns, or complaints, or if you need to report an injury related to the research, please contact the investigator, Ronald A. Yaros, Principal Investigator, at 2100M Knight Hall University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, Phone: (301) 405-2425, Email: ryaros@umd.edu.</i></p>
Participant Rights	<p><i>If you have questions about your rights as a research participant or wish to report a research-related injury, please contact:</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">University of Maryland College Park Institutional Review Board Office 1204 Marie Mount College Park, Maryland, 20742 E-mail: irb@umd.edu Telephone: 301-405-0678</p> <p><i>This research has been reviewed according to the University of Maryland, College Park IRB procedures for research involving human subjects.</i></p>

Statement of Consent	<p><i>Your signature indicates that you are at least 18 years of age; you have read this consent form or have had it read to you; your questions have been answered to your satisfaction and you voluntarily agree to participate in this research study. You will receive a copy of this signed consent form.</i></p> <p><i>If you agree to participate, please sign your name below.</i></p>	
Reimbursement Info	<p><i>Should you choose to participate with your signature below, we also ask that you complete the following information so you can be reimbursed for attending the two workshops offered:</i></p> <p>SCHOOL _____</p> <p>OTHER CONTACT INFO:</p>	
Signature and Date	TEACHER NAME [Please Print]	
	TEACHER SIGNATURE	
	DATE	