2. Consent and Demographic Forms at CMOM

It is mandatory for ALL study participants to sign our UCAIHS approved consent form. The consent form must be signed by a legal guardian of the child—no exceptions! Children who are with a caregiver, or whose parents don’t wish to sign the consent form, can always participate, but no videos or data (even pilot data) may be collected. Once the parent and child have agreed to participate, lead them over to the testing room to administer consent.

The steps:

1. Inform the parent that a signed consent form is needed in order for the child to participate. It is important that the parent truly understand what is happening.

2. Explain what they are signing
   a. Parent will be present the whole time
   b. The parent or child can ask to stop at any time for any reason
   c. The study will be video-recorded
      i. Explain why: So we can have a record of exactly what the child did/said; so we can have a second person double check our results.
      ii. Explain the tapes are for research purposes only; all information will be kept confidential and only accessible by researchers within the lab.
   d. Give the parent a chance to look over forms (engage child while parent reads forms or invite them to check out the toys in the space).
   e. Guide the parent through the study pamphlet and provide the parent with a copy.

3. If the parent has concerns about:
   a. Video/data storage - assure parent that consent forms and videos are for research only, that they are kept in a locked lab, and that the participant names are not connected with the data. Emphasize that we keep track of what children do as a group, not the behavior of any one child (e.g. 6-year olds choose the blue block). If the parent is still uncomfortable with the video taping, offer to turn the camera to the floor and only record audio. Most parents are fine with this, but if they are still uncomfortable, we don’t have to record the session (still preferable to not getting the participant).
   b. Giving out child’s information - they can put first name only, initials, or even exclude the name. Let them know that the date of birth does need to be accurate, as our studies are age-dependent.
   c. If the parent decides not to participate – be accepting. Let them know you understand, thank them for considering, and walk them out.

4. Demographic form
   a. Each study should include the IRB approved demographics form as part of the consenting procedure. This form is optional but parents should be told that “We ask these questions so we can make sure that we include families from all different backgrounds in our research”, to encourage them to fill out as much as they can. They are welcome to skip items if there are particular questions that they feel uncomfortable answering.

It is essential that we provide parents with specific information about the kinds of questions or stimuli being presented to their child during the study, before they sign the consent form. See the next page for guidance on how to approach this.