

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
Informed Consent for Participants
in Research Projects Involving Human Subjects

Title of Project: **Listening Instruction**

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I. Purpose of this Research/Project

This study is conducting in order to analyze second grade teachers' perceptions of listening and how it may evolve over time by collaboratively working with other teachers to plan and implement listening within the context of read alouds. The results of this study will be used for the purpose of a dissertation, and may be used for presentations or publications. The research will include four second grade teachers who have a minimum of ten years teaching experience and currently work collaboratively in a public school elementary setting.

II. Procedures

- Participants will be asked to provide demographics regarding their teaching experience as well as respond to pre-interview and post-interview questions regarding their perceptions about listening in their classroom.
- Participants will be asked to meet bi-weekly for 10 weeks (5 meetings) for 60 minutes to collaboratively discuss listening perceptions and plan how to incorporate listening instruction into one read aloud weekly (Listening Study Group, LSG).
- Participants will be asked to conduct weekly read alouds that focus on listening strategies (previously planned during LSG meetings). For a total of 10 weeks, 10 read alouds will be conducted by each classroom teacher for at least 20 minutes each week.
- Participants will be asked to reflect weekly in a Teacher Reflective LSG Journal after each read aloud with 4 specific prompts for a total of 10 reflections pertaining to each read aloud.
- There will be two researcher observations of each teacher as they conduct a read aloud over the course of the study, one at 3 weeks, and one at 9 weeks for a total of 8 researcher observations of teachers conducting read alouds.
- The research will be conducted within their own school site.
- There will be *no* audio or video recording conducted over the course of this study.

III. Risks

The risks associated with participating in this study are considered to be minimal.

IV. Benefits

No promise or guarantee of benefits has been made to encourage me to participate. The data collected from me during this study will be used for the following purposes: dissertations, publications, conference presentations, and may also be used for teaching purposes.

V. Extent of Anonymity and Confidentiality

Participants will be asked to create a pseudonym that identifies them and each participant's data will only include those pseudonyms. Data analysis will be conducted using the pseudonyms. Data from this study will be collected without any identifying information of participants. All information will be maintained in a locked file cabinet or on a password protected computer. Only the researcher will have access to any identifiable data collected (consent forms) from this study. At no time will the researcher release identifiable results of the study to anyone other than individuals working on the project without prior written consent of the participant. The consent forms will be kept in a locked file cabinet.

The Virginia Tech (VT) Institutional Review Board (IRB) may view the study's data for auditing purposes. The IRB is responsible for the oversight of the protection of human subjects involved in research.

Note: in some situations, it may be necessary for an investigator to break confidentiality. If a researcher has reason to suspect that a child is abused or neglected, or that a person poses a threat of harm to others or him/herself, the researcher is required by Virginia State law to notify the appropriate authorities. If applicable to this study, the conditions under which the investigator must break confidentiality must be described.

VI. Compensation

There will be not be any form of compensation for participating in this study.

VII. Freedom to Withdraw

It is important for you to know that you are free to withdraw from this study at any time without penalty. You are free not to answer any questions that you choose or respond to what is being asked of you without penalty.

Please note that there may be circumstances under which the investigator may determine that a subject should not continue as a subject.

Should you withdraw or otherwise discontinue participation, you will be compensated for the portion of the project completed in accordance with the Compensation section of this document.

VIII. Questions or Concerns

Should you have any questions about this study, you may contact one of the research investigators whose contact information is included at the beginning of this document.

Should you have any questions or concerns about the study's conduct or your rights as a research subject, or need to report a research-related injury or event, you may contact the VT IRB Chair, Dr. David M. Moore at moored@vt.edu or (540) 231-4991.

IX. Subject's Consent

I have read the Consent Form and conditions of this project. I have had all my questions answered. I hereby acknowledge the above and give my voluntary consent:

_____ Date _____
Subject signature

Subject printed name