

San Diego State University  
Consent to Act as a Research Subject (Parent Consent Form)  
Project Title: Cross-Cultural Differences in Thinking and Reasoning about Nature

**Your child is being asked to participate in a research study. Before you give your consent, it is important that you read the following information carefully and ask as many questions as necessary to be sure you understand what your child will be asked to do.**

**Investigator:** Sara J. Unsworth, PhD, Department of Psychology, San Diego State University

**Purpose of the Study:** Your child is being asked to volunteer for a research study that looks at people's informal notions of nature. Your child is being asked to be in this study in order to help us understand how people think about nature, and whether there are differences in how people think about nature. Five hundred children will be participating in this study.

**Description of the Study:** Your child will be presented with pictures, objects, and verbal descriptions of different kinds of things that may be related to the nature and will be asked to answer questions about them. There are no right or wrong answers. Instead, we're interested in how **your child** sees things. This will take about 30 minutes. Your child's interview will be audio and video recorded. If you do not wish for your child to be audio and video recorded, it will not be possible for your child to be in the study. The research will take place during the American Indian Recruitment Program.

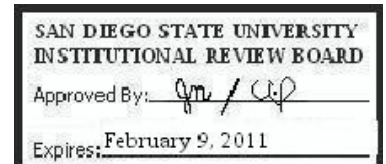
**What is Experimental in this Study:** The pictures, objects, and verbal descriptions might be different for different participants, and responses may be influenced by these differences. The only other aspect of this study that is experimental in nature is the gathering of information for the purpose of analysis.

**Risks or Discomforts:** Potential risks associated with participating in this study are minimal. Feelings of discomfort may arise from being audio and/or video recorded. The purpose of the audio and video recordings is to make sure that we capture all aspects of participants' responses, particularly because many of these responses involves moving pictures and objects around. Only the investigator and her research team will have access to the audio and video recordings, and none of the images from the video recording will be used for purposes not directly related to the study. All recordings will be confidential and anonymous (names will not be associated with any aspect of the recordings or of any other kinds of responses) and will be stored securely in locked cabinets and password protected computer files. Your child may discontinue participation either temporarily or permanently at any time.

**Benefits of the Study:** Your child's participation in this study may aid in our understanding of the informal ways people think and reason about nature. There may be no direct benefit to your child by his or her participation in this research study.

**Confidentiality:** Confidentiality will be maintained to the extent allowed by law. Unless required by law, only the study investigator, members of the investigator's staff, and the San Diego State University Institutional Review Board will have authority to review your child's study records. They are required to maintain confidentiality regarding your child's identity. Research files will be stored in locked cabinets and password protected computer files, and will be destroyed after data analysis is completed or after 5 years, whichever occurs first.

Results of this study may be used for teaching, research, publications, or presentations at scientific meetings. If your child's individual results are discussed, your child's identity will be protected through the use of a study code number – your child's name or any other identifying information will be eliminated from the data files. The recordings of your child's interview will be used in analyzing the research data only, and will not be publicly disclosed.



**Incentives to Participate:** The American Indian Recruitment Program will receive \$20 for your child's participation in this study.

**Voluntary Nature of Participation:** Participation in this study is voluntary. Your choice of whether or not to your child will participate will not influence your future relations with San Diego State University and San Diego State University Foundation. If you decide to consent to your child's participation, you are free to withdraw your consent and your child is free to stop his or her participation at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you and your child are allowed.

**Questions about the Study:** If you have any questions about the research now, please ask. If you have questions later about the research, you may contact Sara J. Unsworth (telephone: 619-594-1327; email: [unsworth@sciences.sdsu.edu](mailto:unsworth@sciences.sdsu.edu)).

If you have any questions about your rights as a participant in this study, you may contact the Division of Research Affairs, San Diego State University (telephone: 619-594-6622; email: [irb@mail.sdsu.edu](mailto:irb@mail.sdsu.edu)).

**Consent to Participate:** The San Diego State University Institutional Review Board has approved this consent form, as signified by the Board's stamp. The consent form must be reviewed annually and expires on the date indicated on the stamp.

Your signature below indicates that you have read the information in this document and have had a chance to ask any questions you have about the study. Your signature also indicates that you agree to allow your child be in the study and have been told that you can change your mind and withdraw your consent to allow your child to participate at any time. You have been given a copy of this consent form. You have been told that by signing this consent form you are not giving up any of your legal rights.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Child (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent/Guardian of Participant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Investigator

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

