

**CONSENT FOR RESEARCH PARTICIPATION**

**sTUDY tITLE:**

Study on Spatial Perspective Taking

**iNVESTIGATOR/RESEARCHER:**

Paul Guinther, Ph.D.

**iNVESTIGATOR/RESEARCHER CONTACT INFORMATION:**

Anchor and Arrow Behavioral Health

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503-272-1514

**Key Information for You to Consider:**

Dr. Guinther is asking if you would like to be in a psychological research study on spatial perspective taking, or how people see things from other people’s point of view. Some key information is provided below to help you decide if you want to participate or not. Read the entire form and ask questions before you decide. You can ask questions about this study by calling Dr. Guinther at 503-272-1514. You can download a copy of this consent form from https://anchorandarrow.life/research/

**If you are age 13-17,** please read this entire form along with your parents (legal guardian, or informed consent monitor) and ask them any questions you may have. You will all need to sign this form for you to participate, and after that Dr. Guinther will need to speak with one of your parents over the phone to make sure you have their permission for you to participate. You can call Dr. Guinther at the number above to answer any questions you may have, you do not have to participate in this study, and you are free to stop participating in this study at any time.

**If a parent is providing permission for their child (age 13-17) to be in this study,** we want to be clear that the terms “you” and “your” mean the child (the participant), and Dr. Guinther is asking for parental permission for the child to be in this study (consent). Dr. Guinther will also ask the child to sign this form to be in the study (assent). It is intended that the child receive compensation for study participation, not the parent.

***What is the purpose of this research?***

The purpose of this research is to better understand how people learn to take other people’s spatial perspectives, or how they see things from other people’s point of view. Dr. Guinther wants to examine if certain kinds of perspective-taking training can help people get better at perspective-taking, and whether teenagers and adults learn differently. He will use the results to advance our scientific understanding of perspective taking, which he hopes will eventually lead to treatments for people who could benefit from improved perspective-taking skills (e.g., children with Autism / Autistic children).

***Inclusion Criteria***

All participants must meet the following conditions for participation:

* You live in the USA.
* You are at least 13 years of age.
* You are mentally and legally able to provide informed consent to participate in this study. (If under 18, you are able to assent to participate in this research with your parents’ or legal guardian’s permission).
* You are able to hear, speak, and read English (in 12-point font on a computer screen).
* You have a phone, a computer with a keyboard and numeric keypad (numbers 1-9 in a 3x3 grid), and a quiet private space (e.g., at home) where you can complete the study.
* You have internet access and a Chrome browser on your computer.
* You do not have any major cognitive, learning, or memory impairments (e.g., ADHD, Dyslexia, Autism, Alzheimer's Disease, etc.).
* You are not in prison or otherwise detained.
* You have not participated in this study before.
* You are willing to receive compensation for study completion in the form of a $25 Amazon electronic gift card (by text) or in the form of a $25 electronic payment if signing up through the Prolific system, or else not be compensated.
* If you agree to participate, you will give your full attention and effort during the study.

***How many people will participate in this study?***

Dr. Guinther plans to have 400 qualified people complete participation in this study.

***What will you do during the study?***

If you decide to participate in this study, you will first need to sign this consent form online. Then you will provide contact information, demographic information (age, sex, race, and level of education), compensation preference information, and availability information online. Then Dr. Guinther will call you on the phone to answer any questions you may have and set up an online appointment with him that will last 1-2 hours, during which you will complete the experiment. There may be a delay between when you sign up for the study and when you are contacted, depending on Dr. Guinther’s availability. You may finish the online experiment in less than 2 hours, but we will book an appointment for the full time just in case you need it. You will need to complete the experiment in private unless you are a minor, in which case an adult can be present to monitor your participation.

If you are a minor, Dr. Guinther will need to speak with your parent (legal guardian, or ward) over the phone prior to experimentation to confirm they consent to you participating in the study, and they may be present during experimentation if they wish. Any parents monitoring their child during the experiment can address matters related to the child’s wellbeing or withdraw them from the study, but parents should otherwise limit their involvement with their child during the study to protect data quality. For example, please do not provide the child with strategies, distract them, or tell them answers to the experimental puzzles or questions.

During the online experiment, **you will need a telephone, a quiet private space where you won’t be distracted, a computer with a keyboard and numeric keypad (numbers 1-9 in a 3x3 grid), and internet access with a Chrome browser**. You will use the Chrome browser to access the experiment on Dr. Guinther’s computer remotely, and Dr. Guinther will give you instructions about how to do this over the phone. This is a one-way secure connection to Dr. Guinther’s computer – he will not be able to access your computer. Dr. Guinther will then guide you over the phone about how to proceed with the online experiment.

There are two main tasks for you to do during the online experiment. In one of the tasks, you will be answering multiple-choice questions about how you and pretend people see objects in an imagined scene. In the other task, you will solve puzzles about how you and pretend people see objects in an actual scene that you can see on the computer. You will receive feedback about whether your answers are correct or incorrect, and you can use this feedback to learn and get better at the tasks. Each task will take about an hour or less to complete, for a total of two hours at most. How long it actually takes you to complete the study will depend on how quickly you learn to answer the questions correctly, but we will not go longer than two hours.

***Will you receive anything for being in the research?***

After completing the study, you will be compensated for your time with a texted link to a $25 Amazon electronic gift card (the receiving person must have an Amazon account and linked phone number for texting the gift card link), or you will be sent $25 electronically through the Prolific system if that is how you signed up for the study. Alternatively, you can elect to not receive compensation if you wish to participate in the study on a purely volunteer basis.

***How long will you be in the research?***

The experiment will last for a single visit of 1-2 hours online. We will need to make an appointment for 2 hours just in case you need the full time. You are free to discontinue participation in this study at any time without penalty. However, compensation for your time will only be granted for completion of the study. If you would like to discontinue participating in the study, you do not need to take any special actions and can simply stop, though it would be helpful to the researcher if you would let them know when and why you are stopping.

***Could being in this research harm you?***

While it is not possible to foresee all possible risks of participating in this study, the level of risk is expected to be about the same as risks of daily life or a school exam. You may experience eye strain, discomfort from sitting, boredom, frustration, or fatigue from concentrating on the computerized tasks. It is possible that study information could be discovered by outside parties (e.g., your data could be stolen following a breach in cyber security). You may be disenrolled from this study by the researcher regardless of your consent if it is necessary to protect you from unforeseen harms.

As a part of screening for study participation, you will need to attest (informally on an “honor system” with Dr. Guinther) that you do not have any major cognitive, learning, or memory impairments. If it were somehow discovered that you incorrectly stated that you are not impaired, it could potentially affect any contradicting disability claims you may have made. It is not clear how other study information might be used against you, but this remains a risk if security measures failed.

A risk to minor participants is that, because their parents have legal control over their finances, their parents may not give them the compensation for study participation even though it was intended for the minor participants.

***Will being in this study help you in any way?***

You will not benefit. We hope that the results of this study will help contribute to the eventual development of treatments for people who would benefit from improving their perspective-taking skills.

***Are there any costs to participate?***

It does not cost anything to be in the study, though you will need to pay for your use of your phone and internet.

***How do researchers protect your information?***

The electronic signature of your consent form, eligibility information, contact information, demographic information, compensation preference information, and information about your availability will be collected via Google Forms and stored in Google Docs, where information is transmitted online over a secure HTTPS SSL encrypted connection. This level of security is generally deemed acceptable for, for example, sending credit card information online. The remote access to the experiment on Dr. Guinther’s computer through the Chrome browser uses an HTTPS SSL encrypted connection and an additional AES encryption algorithm for extra protection. Dr. Guinther will not be able to access your computer through the remote connection. Collected data will be stored on Dr. Guinther’s password-protected personal computer and backed up to password-protected secure servers (i.e., Google Drive and Dropbox, which are both HTTPS SSL and AES encrypted).

Your name and phone number will be linked to your eligibility, demographic, compensation preference, and availability information in Google Drive when you fill out the online form to sign up for study participation. Your signup information will be deleted from Google Drive three years after study completion. Your name, phone number, compensation preference, and availability information will not be linked to your experimental data, which will remain deidentified. All participants are required to meet the same eligibility requirements, meaning that information will be associated with your experimental data but cannot be used to determine your unique identity. Your deidentified demographic information (i.e., age, sex, race, and level of education) will be manually linked to your experimental data by the experimenter and shared with the public as scientific findings. As such, the deidentified information may be used for future research studies or distributed to another investigator for future research studies without additional informed consent. It is a standard scientific practice to make deidentified data available to other researchers upon their request, and because the data is deidentified there is no way for the researcher to opt you out of such potential future use of the data.

If you elect to be compensated with an Amazon gift card for the time it takes you to complete the study, Dr. Guinther will need to give Amazon a phone number so they can send the number a text message with a link to the electronic gift card. The person owning the phone number must have an Amazon account to use the gift card, meaning Amazon will already have the phone number of the account owner. However, as a normal part of Amazon’s delivery operations, receiving a gift card via text will establish a link between their Amazon account and Dr. Guinther’s Amazon account within Amazon’s systems. The person receiving this text message must be someone who has signed this consent form. Amazon will not have access to your experimental data.

If you have signed up for the study through your account on the Prolific system, your participation in this study and compensation payment will be managed and tracked through that system. Prolific is responsible for the safe management of your account, participation, and compensation data in their system. Prolific will not have access to your experimental data.

***Will you get any test information?***

The results of research tests are not given to you. Results of the research tests have no clear meaning for your health care.

***What other choices do you have besides taking part in this research?***

There are no alternatives to this research at this site. You may choose not to participate in this research study.

***Who can you talk to about the research if there are any questions or concerns?***

This study will be conducted according to ethical principles stated in the Declaration of Helsinki (2013), ethics approval will be obtained before initiating the study, and consent forms will take into consideration the well-being, free-will and respect of the participants, including respect of privacy. Contact the research team (Dr. Guinther at 503-272-1514) if you have questions, concerns, complaints, or get hurt as a result of participating in this research.

Pearl Institutional Review Board (IRB) oversees this research. You may call 317-899-9341 to speak to the IRB for any reason, such as:

* You have questions about your rights.
* Your questions, concerns, or complaints are not being answered by the research team.
* You cannot reach the research team.
* You want to talk to someone besides the research team.
* You want to get more information.
* You want to provide your input about this research.

***What additional information should you know?***

The researchers will inform you in a timely manner of any significant new information that may affect you or your ability to stay in the study. Such information may help you decide if you want to stay in the study.

**SIGN TO CONSENT/ASSENT TO PARTICIPATE**

You have read this document and were told of the risks and benefits of participation, and Dr. Guinther (503-272-1514) answered any questions to your satisfaction. Dr. Guinther will answer any future questions you may have. You voluntarily agree to join the study and know that you can withdraw from the study at any time without penalty. You do not waive any legal rights by signing this form.

\*If filling out this form online, your typed name will be your signature. You can download a copy of this consent form for your records at https://anchorandarrow.life/research/

Please enter the name of the person who will be participating in this research:

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**SIGNATURES FOR MINOR PARTICIPANT UNDER AGE 18 (Leave blank if not applicable)**

Assent Signature (Participant under age 18)

First and Last Name Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consent Signature of 1st Parent / Legal Guardian

First and Last Name Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Consent Signature of 2nd Parent / Legal Guardian

First and Last Name Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

If applicable, reason for not providing signature of 2nd parent / legal guardian (check one):

\_\_\_ 2nd parent / legal guardian is not reasonably available, deceased, unknown, or incompetent

\_\_\_ Only one parent has legal responsibility for the care and custody of the child

Consent Signature of Independent Consent Monitor (required if the minor is emancipated, married, pregnant, a parent, or a ward).

First and Last Name Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Status of minor (e.g., emancipated): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE FOR ADULT PARTICIPANT OVER AGE 18 (Leave blank if not applicable)**

Consent Signature (Participant over age 18):

First and Last Name Electronic Signature: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_