

IRB# 2007050013***Informed Consent to Participate in Research*****The University of Texas at Austin**

You are being asked to participate in a research study. This form provides you with information about the study. The Principal Investigator (the person in charge of this research) or his/her representative will also describe this study to you and answer all of your questions. Please read the information below and ask questions about anything you don't understand before deciding whether or not to take part. Your participation is entirely voluntary and you can refuse to participate without penalty or loss of benefits to which you are otherwise entitled.

Title of Research Study: Assessment of the Effectiveness of an inquiry-based curriculum for pre-service secondary teachers

Principal Investigator(s) (include faculty sponsor), UT affiliation, and Telephone Number(s):
Jill A Marshall, Department of Curriculum and Instruction, 232-9685, marshall@mail.utexas.edu

Funding source: National Science Foundation

What is the purpose of this study? Assess the effectiveness of the Environmental Science Institute's *Tracing a Drop of Water* G-K12 program.

What will be done if you take part in this research study?

You will submit your reflective journals, lesson plans, and other artifacts of professional development sponsored by the GK12 program for analysis. You might be interviewed by project personnel or be observed as you carry out a science or mathematics inquiry or teaching task. You will also complete other assessments of content and pedagogical knowledge in science and submit them for project personnel to analyze. You may be video or audio recorded in the process of being interviewed, teaching, or engaging in field activities or other tasks related to professional development, and artifacts that you produce may be saved as part of the research data base.

What are the possible discomforts and risks?

There may be psychological discomfort associated with answering questions or performing tasks that assess your science content or teaching expertise. Your responses will in no way affect your status in the G-K12 program, or your grade in any University of Texas coursework. Your responses will not be identified by name to any person other than the Principal Investigator and her research assistants.

If you wish to discuss the information above or any other risks you may experience, you may ask questions now or call the Principal Investigator listed on the front page of this form.

What are the possible benefits to you or to others?

The goal of this study is to improve the ESI's G-K12 *Tracing a Drop of Water* program and to inform professional development in middle school science as a whole. As this study will provide formative assessment of the effectiveness of the program in which you are enrolled, it will be of

direct benefit to you. It will also help to improve professional development for science teachers in Texas and elsewhere, and ultimately the education of students they will teach.

If you choose to take part in this study, will it cost you anything?

There is no cost for participation in this study.

Will you receive compensation for your participation in this study?

As a participant in the G-K12 Tracing a Drop of Water program, you will receive an annual stipend in addition to tuition reimbursement for any coursework required, as well as classroom materials and supplies for the program. You will receive no compensation for participating in the study beyond the normal compensation for participating in the G-K12 program.

What if you are injured because of the study?

No injuries are expected to occur as a result of this study. If injuries occur as a result of study activity, eligible University students may be treated at the usual level of care with the usual cost for services at the Student Health Center, but no payment can be provided in the event of a medical problem.

If you do not want to take part in this study, what other options are available to you?

Participation in this study is entirely voluntary. You are free to refuse to be in the study, and your refusal will not influence current or future relationships with The University of Texas at Austin [and or participating sites such as AISD or any other organization].

How can you withdraw from this research study and who should I call if I have questions?

If you wish to stop your participation in this research study for any reason, you should contact: Jill Marshall at (512) 232-9685. You are free to withdraw your consent and stop participation in this research study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits for which you may be entitled. Throughout the study, the researchers will notify you of new information that may become available and that might affect your decision to remain in the study.

In addition, if you have questions about your rights as a research participant, please contact Jody Jensen, Ph.D., Chair, The University of Texas at Austin Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects, 512/232-2685.

How will your privacy and the confidentiality of your research records be protected?

Authorized persons from The University of Texas at Austin and the Institutional Review Board have the legal right to review your research records and will protect the confidentiality of those records to the extent permitted by law. If the research project is sponsored then the sponsors also have the legal right to review your research records. Otherwise, your research records will not be released without your consent unless required by law or a court order.

If the results of this research are published or presented at scientific meetings, your identity will not be disclosed except at your request, and not unless you have given the researchers explicit permission to do so.

The researchers will derive no benefit from your participation in this study beyond publishing or presenting the results.

Signatures:

As a representative of this study, I have explained the purpose, the procedures, the benefits, and the risks that are involved in this research study:

Jill Marshall

Signature and printed name of person obtaining consent **Date**

You have been informed about this study’s purpose, procedures, possible benefits and risks, and you have received a copy of this Form. You have been given the opportunity to ask questions before you sign, and you have been told that you can ask other questions at any time. You voluntarily agree to participate in this study. By signing this form, you are not waiving any of your legal rights.

Printed Name of Subject **Date**

Signature of Subject **Date**

Signature of Principal Investigator **Date**

We may wish to present some of the tapes from this study at scientific conventions or as demonstrations in classrooms. Please sign below if you are willing to allow us to do so with the tape of your performance.

I hereby give permission for the video (audio) tape made for this research study to be also used for educational purposes

Printed Name of Subject **Date**

Signature of Subject **Date**

Signature of Principal Investigator **Date**