Child Assent to Participate in Research

My name is (researcher’s name). I am from the University of Chicago. I am doing this study to see if using a tool called the ……… is helpful for kids like you.

Your (mother/father/guardian) said it is ok for me to ask if you want to be part of the study.

We are doing a study to learn …. 

We are asking you to help because we don’t know very much about …. 

What we learn in this research may help other children [or you] with …. 

It is possible you will feel …. 

You may ask us questions at any time. 

You may ask to skip a question, or to stop at any time. 

The questions we ask are only about what you think. There are no right or wrong answers because this is not a test. 

If you sign this paper, it means you understand what has been told about our study and you want to be in it. If you do not want to be in the study, don’t sign (or verbally agree to) the paper. Being in the study is up to you, and no one will be upset if you do not sign the paper (or verbally agree to), or if you change your mind later.

Child’s Name _____________________________________________ 
(Print) 
Child’s Signature __________________________________________ Date__________________

Researcher’s Signature _____________________________________ Date _________________

Children under 12 do not necessarily have to sign a form. It is up to the researchers and input from the IRB; therefore, if children verbally assent, it should be recorded/documentated by researchers.