



Research study “Learning dynamics in the design of virtual artifacts”: Information Sheet for participants

Investigators: Dr. Alex Mesoudi, Ms Keelin Murray

Contact details: Department of Anthropology, Durham University, Dawson Building, South Road, Durham DH1 3LE. Email: a.a.mesoudi@durham.ac.uk Tel: 0191 334 0248

Invitation to participate

We would like to invite you to be part of this research project, if you would like to. You should only agree to take part if you want to, it is entirely up to you. If you choose not to take part there won't be any disadvantages for you and you will hear no more about it.

Please read the following information carefully before you decide to take part; this will tell you why the research is being done and what you will be asked to do if you take part. Please ask if there is anything that is not clear or if you would like more information.

If you decide to take part you will be asked to sign the attached form to say that you agree.

You are still free to withdraw at any time without giving a reason.

Study Details

This research study is a computer-based learning experiment. You will be asked to sit at a computer and engage in a task in which you have to design a 'virtual arrowhead'. You may choose to interact with other participants via the computer program.

The total length of the study will not exceed one hour and you will be paid £8 as compensation for your time. You will also receive up to an additional £6 depending on your performance in the game. There are no foreseeable risks or discomforts involved. The data collected during this experiment are entirely anonymous and your name and contact details are not stored anywhere in our records. Anonymous, aggregate data (e.g. group averages) may be published as part of an article in a scientific journal, but you will never be personally identifiable.

When you have finished you will be given a debriefing sheet which explains the purpose of the study and contains contact information for any follow-up questions you may have.

It is up to you to decide whether or not to take part. If you do decide to take part you will be given this information sheet to keep and be asked to sign a consent form.



Consent Form

Please complete this form after you have read the Information Sheet and/or listened to an explanation about the research.

Title of Study: Learning dynamics in the design of virtual artifacts

- Thank you for considering taking part in this research. You must read the Information Sheet before you agree to take part.
- If you have any questions arising from the Information Sheet, please ask the researcher before you decide whether to join in. You will be given a copy of this Consent Form to keep and refer to at any time.
- I understand that if I decide at any other time during the research that I no longer wish to participate in this project, I can notify the researchers involved and be withdrawn from it immediately.
- I consent to the processing of my personal information for the purposes of this research study. I understand that such information will be treated as strictly confidential and handled in accordance with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998.

Participant's Statement:

I, _____ (PRINT YOUR NAME) agree that the research project named above has been explained to me to my satisfaction and I agree to take part in the study. I have read both the notes written above and the Information Sheet about the project, and understand what the research study involves.

Signed:

Date:

Investigator's Statement:

I _____ (PRINT YOUR NAME) confirm that I have carefully explained the nature, demands and any foreseeable risks (where applicable) of the proposed research to the volunteer

Signed:

Date: