**A computer game environment to teach literacy skills**

As a group of students from the University of Nottingham, we have been assigned a task to create an educational game designed to aid the learning of literacy skills for Key Stage 1 children. Our study will involve showcasing a prototype version of a game to the children and giving them the opportunity to play it themselves. They will then be asked a few questions about their experience playing the game, such as how easy it was to understand and whether they enjoyed it. Similar questions will also be asked to you to evaluate the tool as a method for learning. This collected data will be used to make improvements and amendments to the game in order to deliver the best product possible.

This study will take place during a timetabled lesson. You will be present at all times during the study sessions; at no point will any child be in a room on their own with the researchers.

As your class is currently studying Key Stage 1 literacy we would like them to take part in our study, should you consent.

Data collected will consist of hand-written notes made during observations of game-play and during interviews. This data will be stored in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998, all research documents will be kept in a secure location only accessible by members directly associated with the project. All electronic copies of the notes will be stored on the University of Nottingham’s password protected server.

You are free to withdraw from the experiment at any time during the task and you are able to withdraw your consent for any data captured to be used after the task, should you wish to. In these events, all of your data will be erased. These rules are the same for the children and parents have been notified.

All data will be anonymised, no personal information will be asked of you during the research. The published research may include answers to short questions we will ask about experiences using the software, as well as quotations and reactions when using the software (these will not have any personal data attached to them). These results may be used in our final group report and presentation which will be viewed by a small number of other university students and staff.

If you have any queries relating to your consent, you can contact me at any time via email.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert Sadler

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