

**UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON**  
**Research Participant Information and Consent Form**

**Title of the Study:** Investigating the role of inheritance in the problem solving abilities of teams

**Principal Investigator:** Gary Lupyan (phone: 608-262-4333) (email: [lupyan@wisc.edu](mailto:lupyan@wisc.edu))

Student Researcher: Pierce Edmiston (email: [pedmiston@wisc.edu](mailto:pedmiston@wisc.edu))

**DESCRIPTION OF THE RESEARCH**

You are invited to participate in a research study about problem solving and teamwork. You have been asked to participate because you are healthy English-speaking adult. This study will include members of the University of Wisconsin student body. The research will be conducted in Gary Lupyan's lab in Brogden Hall (Psychology building).

The purpose of the research is to investigate how people work together in teams to solve problems. Specifically what we are interested in is the various ways people interact and share information when working together in a team, and the impact of team organization on the way problems are solved.

**WHAT WILL MY PARTICIPATION INVOLVE?**

If you decide to participate in this research, you will be asked to solve a problem by playing a computer game where you have to build tools made from different resources in order to achieve a goal. Your participation in this research involves attempting to solve a problem for the duration of the experiment.

The typical length of an experiment is between 30 and 60 minutes. You may have been recruited to participate in a longer session of up to 120 minutes. You will have received a more accurate estimate of the duration of this study when you originally signed up. Please ask the experimenter for an accurate estimate of how long your participation will take.

You may be asked to return for multiple visits. Returning for multiple visits is optional. You will receive compensation for sessions you complete, and there are no penalties for declining to participate further. Please ask the experimenter if you will be considered for multiple visits.

You may be randomly assigned to work with at least one other participant in the study to form a team. You and your teammates will interact through the computer game and are able to help each other solve the problem by sharing information with one another during the experiment task.

You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire about your participation in the research at the end. Some of these questions may ask you to reflect on the experiment and your approach to the problem-solving task. These questions involve rating your own problem solving performance as well as the performance of any team members you may have interacted with. These responses will be kept private. You are not required to answer any questions you feel uncomfortable answering. We may also collect the following information about you for this research study: your age, gender, and your family's language background.

## **ARE THERE ANY RISKS TO ME?**

This research involves playing a computer game, which involves extended amounts of time in front of a computer screen. The longer the experiment, the greater the chance you will experience fatigue. The purpose of the game is to achieve a high score, which some may find stressful. In addition, you may be working together in teams, which risks conflict among team members. There is also a risk for breach of confidentiality if team membership or participant identity is accidentally revealed. This risk is increased if you are asked to return for multiple visits.

## **ARE THERE ANY BENEFITS TO ME?**

We don't expect any direct benefits to you from participation in this study.

## **WILL I BE COMPENSATED FOR MY PARTICIPATION?**

If you signed up to participate in this research via the UW-Madison Psychology Department participant pool, you will receive research study credit appropriate to the length of the study (2 points / hour in increments of ¼ point). If you did **not** sign up via the participant pool, you will receive cash payment (\$8 / hour) at the completion of the study. If you are returning for multiple visits, you will receive your compensation (study credit or cash) in bulk at the end of your last session. If you choose to withdraw from the study, you will receive compensation after withdrawing for any sessions you completed.

## **HOW WILL MY CONFIDENTIALITY BE PROTECTED?**

While there will probably be publications as a result of this study, your name will not be used. Only group characteristics will be published.

## **HOW WILL MY DATA BE SHARED?**

After the research is completed, all research data will be anonymized and made available for other researchers to use. All data will be shared in this way in order to improve the reproducibility of our research.

## **WHOM SHOULD I CONTACT IF I HAVE QUESTIONS?**

You may ask any questions about the research at any time. If you have questions about the research after you leave today you should contact the Principal Investigator Gary Lupyan by calling 608-262-4333 or emailing [lupyan@wisc.edu](mailto:lupyan@wisc.edu). You may also email the student researcher, Pierce Edmiston at [pedmiston@wisc.edu](mailto:pedmiston@wisc.edu).

If you are not satisfied with response of research team, have more questions, or want to talk with someone about your rights as a research participant, you should contact the Education and Social/Behavioral Science IRB Office at 608-263-2320.

Your participation is completely voluntary. If you decide not to participate or to withdraw from the study it will have no effect on your grade in class.

## **CONSENT TO PARTICIPATE IN RESEARCH**

Your signature indicates that you have read this consent form, had an opportunity to ask any questions about your participation in this research and voluntarily consent to participate. You will receive a copy of this form for your records.

Name of Participant (please print): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature Date