

## Project Participant Consent Form

What is the research study? We are studying a collaborative model for action research. In the project, zoo and aquarium educators will study how and what visitors learn while doing educational activities. Simultaneously, project staff will study how zoo and aquarium educators learn to do action research.

Who will be doing the research? The project is called the “Zoo and Aquarium Action Research Collaborative” (ZAARC). It is funded by the National Science Foundation. <person> at TERC, a not-for-profit organization in Cambridge, MA, will direct the project.

What data will we collect? We will keep written notes of meetings and phone calls with you. We will collect any documents you write for the project, such as your observations of visitors. At project meetings, we will audiotape and/or videotape research presentations and discussions. We may also interview you and audiotape the conversation. We may take still photos at our meetings or at your institution.

We will make every attempt to keep your work anonymous. The transcripts of tapes and anything you write or draw will be marked with pseudonyms and not your real name. The photos or video may show your face, but we will not identify you by name. In the video or audio it might be possible to hear your first name, but we will not use last names.

What will we do with the data? We will present findings based on the data at scholarly conferences or in academic publications. We may post some of the papers we write on the Web. We may also share video with public audiences. Your face and first name may be revealed, but your last name and any other identifying information will be kept confidential. Your name will be changed in all professional presentations and publications.

What do you have to decide? You can choose whether or not you want to participate in the study. You do not have to participate. If you choose to participate, you may withdraw at any time. If you do not agree to participate there will be no penalty to you and your job will not be affected in any way.

Please contact <contact information> if you have questions about the project.

If you would like to contact someone outside the project, you can contact <contact>, a member of the group overseeing TERC’s research with human participants.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

You will receive a copy of this form.

Please check one of the choices.

I agree to participate in the research project.

I decline to participate in the research project.

Participant Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_