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Dear Parents:

My name is Charlotte Enns, and I work at the University of Manitoba (in Winnipeg, Canada). I study how children learn language – mainly how children learn to sign, or use American Sign Language (ASL).

I would like to study how your child uses ASL, so I am asking you let your child do a test for me. Your child will watch a video of a Deaf woman signing and then look at four pictures and point to the one that matches what she signed. There are about 40 questions on the test, so it will take about 15 – 20 minutes to finish. Some of the questions will be easy and some might be hard. If your child doesn't know the answer, she/he can guess or just tell me, "I don't know". Your child can also stop doing the test at any time.

I will write about how your child and the other children did on the test. This will help other teachers know how to use the test better. When I write about the test I will not use your child's name or say anything private about you or your family. The only people who will know the test scores will be me and my helpers (research assistants), and we will not share this information with anyone, including your child's teachers.

Thank you for thinking about letting your child take this test. As teachers, we need ways to measure children's ASL skills – this test will help us do that. Please contact me by email at: ennscj@cc.umanitoba.ca or phone (TTY): (204) 783-6391. I can answer your questions and we can plan a day for your child to take the test.

Thank you,

Charlotte Enns
University of Manitoba