

Consent Form

Please read the following consent agreement and choose the options for participation as indicated below. Please sign the form and keep one of the two copies for your records. Return the other copy with your application to the workshop.

I agree to participate in the research study entitled "Teaching Science Teachers about Masters of Disaster in Socioeconomically and Climatologically Vulnerable Counties of Georgia" that is being conducted by Dr. Alan E. Stewart (Department of Counseling & Human Development at the University of Georgia, phone: 706.542.1263, email: aeswx@uga.edu) and Dr. John A. Knox (Geography Department at the University of Georgia, phone 706.542.2118, email: johnknox@uga.edu). My participation is voluntary; I can refuse to participate or stop taking part at any time without giving any reason, and without penalty. I can ask to have information related to me returned to me, removed from the research records, or destroyed.

I understand the following points:

1. **PURPOSE:** This study will examine the effectiveness of a five-day weather science and safety workshop in building my factual knowledge and skills regarding instruction about weather and weather safety using the Red Cross Masters of Disaster curriculum. The research is designed to assess the extent to which educators can learn and then subsequently teach their students about weather and climate, about safety and preparedness measures needed for hazardous weather events such as tornadoes, lightning, hurricanes, floods, general disaster preparedness, and dealing with the aftermath of such disasters.
2. **BENEFITS:** One benefit from participating in this project will involve becoming more familiar and knowledgeable about the science of tornadoes, lightning, hurricanes, and floods along with ways in which to be safe around these natural hazards. Another benefit will involve becoming more familiar with the Masters of Disaster (MoD) curriculum for the K-8 grades. This curriculum may be a beneficial resource for teachers to use in their science related instruction to students in these grades. A third benefit will involve learning from other participants in the MoD workshop as they examine the curriculum, ask questions about it, and discuss its use.
3. **INCENTIVES:** For participating, in the week-long (5-day) workshop, I will receive a stipend of \$300. I also will receive two Masters of Disaster curriculum kits (one to use and one to share with an interested colleague). I will receive five (5) professional learning units (PLU's) for participating in the project. Finally, lunch will be provided for me during the workshop.

4. PROCEDURES: The procedures for this project will involve the following:
- A. I will receive this form, read, and complete it, keeping one copy and turning in a second copy to the researchers with my application.
 - B. Ahead of the workshop I will be sent and view a powerpoint presentation that provides an overview to the weather science and safety workshop and to the Red Cross Masters of Disaster curriculum. A Debriefing Form explaining this project also will be sent.
 - C. At the start of the workshop I will complete a packet of questionnaires that are designed to assess my knowledge, skills, and attitudes about weather science and safety education. These measures include: The Weather Safety Education Questionnaire, The Science Teaching Efficacy Belief Inventory, the Weather Science and Safety Teaching Efficacy Inventory, the Weather Science and Safety Content Test, and A Workshop Goal Attainment Scaling Measure. The completion of these measures is entirely voluntary and my completion of them can be discontinued at any time without loss of the incentives that are part of participating in the workshop.
 - D. The five-day (approximately 40 hour) onsite workshop will then begin and involve primarily lecture- and demonstration-based instruction about the science and safety issues associated with lightning, tornadoes, hurricanes, and floods. These lectures and demonstrations will be provided by the workshop faculty. The workshop also will involve lectures on the topics of general disaster preparedness and safety, dealing with the aftermath of natural disasters, and science pedagogy for the K-8 grades. Beyond these lectures and demonstrations by the workshop faculty, the workshop week also will involve taking virtual tours of the National Hurricane Center and the Storm Prediction Center and interacting electronically for a question-and-answer session with the meteorologists that staff each of these Centers. Finally, the onsite workshop will provide the opportunity for me to prepare a plan on how I might disseminate and implement the MoD curriculum in my school and with my students. I also will be given the opportunity to prepare and demonstrate a lesson that I choose from the MoD curriculum to the other workshop participants as a way to practice and gain familiarity with the MoD curriculum. Participation in the workshop and each of its component activities is entirely voluntary. I understand if I am unable to attend the workshop that I will not be eligible to receive the PLU credits, which require completion of the workshop.
 - E. At the conclusion of the workshop I will be given a packet of post-workshop measures that includes: The Science Teaching Efficacy Belief Inventory, the Weather Science and Safety Teaching Efficacy Inventory, the Weather Science and Safety Content Test, and A

Workshop Goal Attainment Scaling Measure. Completion of these measures is voluntary and I may skip any questions that I do not wish to answer.

- F. After the onsite workshop concludes in the summer, I will receive another powerpoint presentation to view that summarizes, reviews, and reinforces the content of the main, onsite workshop. Viewing this presentation is voluntary.
 - G. In the fall following the workshop I understand that the researchers would like for me to attempt to deliver to my students two science lessons from each of the hurricane and flood modules of the MoD curriculum. I also understand that the researchers would like for me to attempt to teach two safety lessons from the hurricane and flood modules of the MoD curriculum. Then, in the spring of the year I will teach/deliver two science and safety lessons from the tornado and lightning modules of the MoD curriculum. I understand that this is voluntary and that I am not obligated or required to deliver these lessons.
 - H. After delivering these lessons I will be asked to administer to my students a very brief measure of what the students might have learned from the lesson. The researchers will supply this measure to me and I have the option of not administering the measure if I choose or prefer not to.
 - I. I understand that I might be selected at random for a classroom observation by the workshop faculty as I deliver the MoD lessons on tornadoes, hurricanes, lightning, or floods. I realize that this is entirely voluntary and would be done with my permission and consent and that of my school and school district. The purpose of this observation is to evaluate the extent to which the workshop I attended helped to become more knowledgeable and skilled in the MoD curriculum. The observation will not be used for any other purposes with regard to my employment in my school district.
 - J. Ahead of or around the time(s) I am to deliver these lessons, the program faculty will be in contact with me to determine if I have questions about the MoD curriculum or have needs for consultation or instructional support as I prepare to deliver the lessons described in the previous section.
 - K. In the spring of the year, approaching the one-year mark since attending the onsite workshop, the researchers will contact me again to survey me about my use and dissemination of the MoD curriculum over the course of the school year following my participation in the workshop. Completion of this measure is entirely voluntary and I can skip any questions that I wish.
5. DISCOMFORTS or STRESSES: No discomforts or stresses are expected.
 6. RISKS: No risks are expected.
 7. CONFIDENTIALITY: My participation in the research associated with this project (completion of questionnaires and classroom observation data) will

be treated confidentially by the researchers. After completing the pre- and post-workshop measurement packet, the sheet with my name will be removed from the packets and tracking number will be written on my materials. A list that identifies my name with the tracking number will be kept in a locked file drawer in a locked office in the College of Education at the University of Georgia. This list will be maintained for approximately one year and then it will be deleted and destroyed. Beyond the onsite workshop questionnaires, only the tracking number will be used for the written responses I produce (i. e., in the use and dissemination questions). The data file that is analyzed to evaluate the effectiveness of the workshops will only contain the tracking number and not my name, along with the responses I made to the questionnaire. Reports of the effectiveness of the workshops will be made using only summary statistics of the whole workshop group and not individual responses. The information I supplied on my application form will be destroyed after my one year of involvement with the project (spring following the summer workshop) comes to a close.

8. FURTHER QUESTIONS: Following the completion of the data collection, I will be able to contact the researchers if I have any questions (Dr. Alan E. Stewart, aeswx@uga.edu, 706.542.1263 or Dr. John A. Knox, johnknox@uga.edu, 706.542.2118).

My signature below indicates that the researchers have answered all of my questions to my satisfaction and that I consent to volunteer for this study. I have been given a copy of this form.

Alan E. Stewart, Ph. D.
Principal Investigator

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date

I give my permission for the researchers to do a classroom observation of my delivery of a Masters of Disaster lesson

Yes

No

Initials

Additional questions or problems regarding your rights as a research participant should be addressed to The Chairperson, Institutional Review Board, University of Georgia, 629 Boyd Graduate Studies Research Center, Athens, Georgia 30602-7411; Telephone (706) 542-3199; E-Mail Address IRB@uga.edu