

**University of California, Irvine  
Study Information Sheet**

***A Study of Communication in Virtual Worlds by Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder***

**Lead Researcher**

Kathryn Ringland, PhD Student  
Department of Informatics  
360-601-3112, kringlan@uci.edu

**Faculty Sponsor**

Dr. Gillian R. Hayes, Associate Professor  
Department of Informatics  
949-824-1483, gillianrh@ics.uci.edu

- You are being asked to participate in a research study to explore how children with Autism Spectrum Disorder use Minecraft to interact.
- You are eligible to participate in this study if you play in the Minecraft world for children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.
- The research procedures involve Ms. Ringland observing players in Minecraft.
- Possible risks/discomforts associated with the study are possible discomfort while being observed.
- There are no direct benefits from participation in the study. However, this study may explain how children with Autism Spectrum Disorder socialize and how to best assist them with technological interventions for communication.
- You will not be compensated for your participation in this research study.
- All research data collected will be stored securely and confidentially electronically on a laptop computer in an encrypted file and is password protected and physically in a secure location at UCI. Screen shots may be taken, but will be de-identified (usernames removed) as soon as possible (within 1 month) of capture.
- The research team, authorized UCI personnel, and regulatory entities may have access to your study records to protect your safety and welfare. Any information derived from this research project that personally identifies you will not be voluntarily released or disclosed by these entities without your separate consent, except as specifically required by law.
- If you have any comments, concerns, or questions regarding the conduct of this research please contact the researchers listed at the top of this form.



- Please contact UCI's Office of Research by phone, (949) 824-6662, by e-mail at [IRB@research.uci.edu](mailto:IRB@research.uci.edu) or at 5171 California Avenue, Suite 150, Irvine, CA 92617 if you are unable to reach the researchers listed at the top of the form and have general questions; have concerns or complaints about the research; have questions about your rights as a research subject; or have general comments or suggestions.
- Participation in this study is voluntary. There is no cost to you for participating. You may choose to skip a question or a study procedure. You may refuse to participate or discontinue your involvement at any time without penalty. You are free to withdraw from this study at any time. **If you decide to withdraw from this study you should notify the research team immediately.**

