

Project CONVERGE

Bring Antarctic science &
scientists into your classroom!



Principal Investigator: Josh Kohut

Project Title: Project CONVERGE

Attachment 4: Project CONVERGE Student Assent Form

You are invited to participate in a research study that is being conducted by Dr. Josh Kohut, Assistant Professor, and Kristin Hunter-Thomson, SET Program Coordinator, of the Cooperative Extension and the Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences at Rutgers University. The purpose of this research project is to understand how your teacher(s) and you benefit from the partnership between your classroom and the science team conducting research in Antarctica that you will be participating in all year (Project CONVERGE).

This research is anonymous. Anonymous means that we will record no information about you that could identify you. This means that we will not record your name, address, phone number, date of birth, etc. If you agree to take part in the study, you will be assigned a random letter-number code that will be used on each survey questionnaire. Only your teacher's name will appear on a list of subjects. There will be no list of your name and the list of teachers will not be linked to the letter-number code that is assigned to you. There will be no way to link your responses back to you. Therefore, data collection is anonymous.

The research team and the Institutional Review Board at Rutgers University are the only parties that will be allowed to see the data, except as may be required by law. If a report of this study is published, or the results are presented at a professional conference, only group results will be stated. All study data will be kept for a minimum of three years. Then shredding will destroy them.

There are no foreseeable risks to participation in this study. In addition, you may receive no direct benefit from taking part in this study.

Participation in this study is voluntary. You may choose not to participate, and you may withdraw at any time during the study procedures without any penalty to you. If either of these are your choice, you need to notify your teacher. In addition, you may choose not to answer any questions with which you are not comfortable.

If you have any questions about the study or study procedures, you may contact the researcher at hunterthomon@marine.rutgers.edu or 848-932-3281. If you have any questions about your rights as a research subject, you may contact the IRB Administrator at Rutgers University at:

Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey
Institutional Review Board for the Protection of Human Subjects
Office of Research and Sponsored Programs
3 Rutgers Plaza
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8559
Tel: 848-932-0150; Email: humansubjects@orsp.rutgers.edu

You will be given a copy of this assent form for your records.

By participating in this study, you agree to be a study subject.