University of Maryland Children's Searching Studies
PARENT INTERVIEW SCRIPT

Hi! We are [names] from the University of Maryland here to interview you and your child for our research study on how children search the on the Internet over time. Your child is one of about 50 or 60 participants in this study and we appreciate your input. Before we begin, can you please sign here indicating your permission to allow us to record both interviews (audio and video)?

OK, I'm just going to ask you some questions about your home computers and your child. If I ask you something that doesn't quite make sense, please feel free to ask me questions back.

1. How do you think your child has changed as a searcher since the last time we visited

    you?

2. How many working computers do you have connected to the Internet?

3. **[if more than one]** Which computer does [name] use the most?

4. Does your child share the computer with anyone or does he/she have his/her own?

5. Does your child have a cell phone? Is it a smartphone?

6. How long has [name] been using computers?

7. Where do you think he or she learns about computers and searching?

8. Does he/she search with anyone else?

9. How many days a week does he/she use the computer at home?

10. How many times per day does he/she use the computer at home?

    a. How long each time?

11. Does your child [name] **search** for information on the computer? If so, how often?

12. What does your child usually search for? Is that for home or for school?

    Is there anything else they search for?

13. Does anything frustrate your child [name] when it comes to searching on the computer?

14. **[If YES to 11]** How can you tell when your child is frustrated with the computer?

15. In general, do you ever offer help or support when your child is searching?

    a. If so, what type of assistance do you give?

16. Do you put any constraints on your child's use of the computer?

17. If you could create a new tool for your child for searching on the computer, what would it be? How would it work?

18. Up until now, I've asked you about your child. Now, may I please ask you a couple of questions about you (optional – and your spouse/partner)?

    a. Do you work inside or outside the home? (optional –does your spouse/partner work inside or outside the home?)

    b. What do you do for work? (optional – what does your spouse/partner do for work)?

    c. Would you say you are beginning to learn, comfortable, or an expert when it comes to using the computer?

       □ beginning to learn   □ comfortable   □ expert

       (Optional - Would you say your spouse/partner is beginning to learn, comfortable, or an expert when it comes to using the computer?)

       □ beginning to learn   □ comfortable   □ expert

Thank you for all of this information. Now we'll move on to working with your child [name]. You're more than welcome to join the fun. If you do, please don't interact with him/her, so that she/he is primarily interacting with the researcher. We're not looking for right or wrong answers, we just want to see how he/she approaches searching.