

Participant information sheet (Child Participant)

Hello, I'm Abe!

I'm trying to understand how games like Thaliana can help children explore and learn about science through gameplay.

Thaliana is a digital game based in a plant science lab which you access through a tablet or a smartphone. The scientist character will ask you to help them perform a set of tasks that are very similar to work done by plant scientists.

You can have fun playing the game and also learn something new about plant science by completing the game. Don't worry, the experiments and labs are completely safe. All activities happen within the digital game only.

To help me understand how the game can help children like you, you will see a short survey after finishing the game. Please ask a responsible adult (parent/carer) to fill it up on your behalf. As a thank you for helping me out, you will receive a copy of the poster "Building Blocks of Plants" once the survey is completed.

You can just play the game and not participate in the survey. You can choose to withdraw from the study at any time by closing the game or the survey. If you add a feedback comment in the survey, I may use it to talk about the game. But please don't put your name or other personal details in there.

Information for adults:

This information sheet is produced for participants below the age of 18 years. Further detailed information should be accessed by reading the accompanying "Participant Information Sheet – (Adult Participant or Responsible Adult)"

Who has reviewed the project?

This study has been reviewed and approved by the Lancaster University Faculty of Science and Technology Research Ethics Committee.

What if I have a question or concern?

If you have any queries or if you are unhappy with anything that happens concerning your participation in the study, please contact myself Dr. Abe Karnik (a.karnik@lancaster.ac.uk, or SCC, InfoLab, Lancaster University, Lancaster, LA1 1WA)

If you have any concerns or complaints that you wish to discuss with a person who is not directly involved in the research, you can also contact:

Prof. Nigel Davis, Head of School, School of Computing and Communication, InfoLab, Lancaster University, LA1 1WA, n.a.davies@lancaster.ac.uk

Thank you for considering your participation in this project.