

# WHO AM I?

Live Science

Information sheet (adult)

## UNDERSTANDING CURIOSITY

### WHAT IS THE STUDY ABOUT?

This study is about curiosity. We want to know what makes you curious and why. Come and help our Live Science researchers from the University of Reading learn more about what makes you search for new information.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN IN THE STUDY?

There is a short questionnaire and some fun computer games. If you decide to take part, you will be free to complete as much or as little as you like. The games are varied, and include trivia questions, card games, and games in which you can reveal pictures just by looking at them. From your answers to the questionnaire, we can tell you about your curiosity style. Each part of the study takes around 5 minutes, so if you wish to complete every element it will take around 30 minutes. We will also ask for some basic information about you, including your age and gender. This information will be kept strictly confidential.

### WHY ARE WE DOING THIS STUDY?

Previous research has shown that people have different styles of curiosity, but we do not know how these styles translate into differences in information-seeking behaviour. The aim of this study is to further understand when and why different people seek information about things they do not yet know. Curiosity is important for many reasons: it helps us to learn about the world, but it can also get us into trouble by leading us to take risks. A better understanding of curiosity will help us to establish when it is beneficial and when it can be dangerous.

### WHO CAN TAKE PART IN THE STUDY?

We are looking for adults of all ages, and children aged 5+ to take part in the study.

### WHAT DO I NEED TO DO IF I WANT TO TAKE PART?

If you would like to take part, please ask one of the researchers. We require consent for participation from all volunteers. Please let the researchers know if you would like a copy of the form for your personal records. This is standard procedure for all research with visitors.

### CAN I CHANGE MY MIND?

You can change your mind at any time during the study. It is completely voluntary and you do not need to give a reason for choosing to stop at any point. If you no longer wish to have your data included in the study, you must let the researchers know so that they can securely destroy any data collected. You may do this after taking part by emailing the researchers.

### WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE RESULTS OF THIS RESEARCH?

Your recorded data will be stored in anonymised form in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation 2016 and the Data Protection Act 2018. Consent forms containing personal details will be stored securely at the University of Reading for a period of 5 years and then destroyed. A secure database linking your anonymised data to your personal details will be stored and used only at your request (ie to remove your data from the study). Only authorised researchers will have access to the data recorded during this study.

The study results may be published in scientific journals or presented at academic conferences, but no identifiable information will be used. Summaries of the results will be available on our website <http://koumurayama.com> or by request.

### HOW DO I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT THE STUDY?

You are welcome to put questions directly to our researchers in the museum. You may also contact:

Dr Lily FitzGibbon  
[l.fitzgibbon@reading.ac.uk](mailto:l.fitzgibbon@reading.ac.uk), 0118 378 8313

or Dr Kou Murayama  
[k.murayama@reading.ac.uk](mailto:k.murayama@reading.ac.uk), 0118 378 5558

For more information about our research at the University of Reading, please see the Motivation Science Lab website: <http://koumurayama.com>

If you have any complaints about this research, please contact Dr Kou Murayama (details above).

This application has been reviewed by the University of Reading Research Ethics Committee and has been given a favourable ethical opinion for conduct.

Who Am I? is supported by:



With additional support for Live Science from:



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