

The Preschool and Student
Comprehensive Eye and Vision Examination Report

Reference Page

The Reference Page explains the Vision First reports. Please follow the eye doctor's recommendations. Successful treatment depends on parent compliance and support from the school.

A Comprehensive Eye and Vision Examination includes:

EYE HEALTH A thorough inspection of the eyes and eyelids with diagnostic instruments to rule out childhood eye diseases. (e.g., juvenile cataracts, hereditary defects, glaucoma) Juvenile diabetes and other diseases show symptoms in the eyes, too. Patient and family health history is reviewed.

VISUAL ACUITY A measure of the eye's ability to see small objects at both far and near distances.

At distance: 20 feet or beyond (e.g., chalkboard, charts, movies, television)

At near: Within arm's reach (e.g., reading a book, computer work, writing, sewing, crafts)

VISUAL EFFICIENCY Refers to a group of visual skills important for school, sports, driving, and the modern workplace. The following visual skills tests will determine the ability of the eyes to meet the demands required for reading and learning.

- 1. DEPTH PERCEPTION:** A stereopsis test will measure how well the images from the two eyes are integrated in the brain. This measure also indicates how well the two eyes can provide three-dimensional vision. Lack of ability may cause frequent misjudgment of direction and distance in 3D space.
- 2. MUSCLE IMBALANCE:** The inability to use both eyes together smoothly, equally, and accurately. May cause fatigue, squinting, extreme postures, and poor attention for near tasks. **If "Near work may be difficult or cause fatigue" is checked,** frequent rest periods are advised.
- 3. OCULOMOTOR EVALUATION:** Determines the ability of the eyes to move in all directions smoothly and easily without head movement, as well as shift focus of eyes from far to near quickly and easily. (e.g., copying from the chalkboard) Eye movement skills involve the speed and control of visual inspection and scanning of reading materials. **If "Inadequate" is checked,** may cause losing one's place when reading, the reversal of letters and numbers, omitting letters and words, and short attention span.
- 4. SUPPRESSION OF VISION:** A mental blocking of an image from one eye or the alternation of suppression of vision. Suppression of vision makes processing visual information very difficult in that eye.
- 5. AMBLYOPIA:** A loss of vision usually caused by a large difference in prescription in both eyes, or a turning of one or both eyes. Amblyopia develops as a result of constant non-use of vision of one eye for long periods of time. Amblyopia usually needs to be diagnosed as early as possible to maximize treatment and to prevent the leading cause of vision loss in children and young adults.
- 6. COLOR VISION:** If a color deficiency is identified, which usually is a hereditary condition, the child could confuse colors. A color deficient child should not be asked to discriminate colors for any learning task.
- 7. REFRACTIVE EVALUATION:** Measurements for nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism.

Does the child have: *Trouble completing schoolwork? Delayed progress or difficulties in school? Eye strain? Headaches? Short attention span? Avoidance of reading or close work? Frequent loss of place when reading? Poor handwriting? A child may or may not display symptoms of impaired vision. **When in doubt, check it out.***

A comprehensive eye and vision examination ensures healthy eyes and good vision—a child's best school supply.

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