

How to Identify & Treat Learning-Related Vision Problems

If a child appears to be struggling in school or performing below his/her ability, an undiagnosed vision problem may be the cause.

MANY CHILDREN HAVE UNDETECTED VISUAL PROBLEMS THAT INTERFERE WITH THEIR ABILITY TO LEARN. Bright children, who are mistakenly labeled as lazy or learning disabled, may actually have **learning-related vision problems**. Behavior problems may develop due to frustration felt by students who want to perform, but don't understand why they cannot.

EVEN CHILDREN WITH 20/20 EYESIGHT CAN HAVE THESE PROBLEMS caused by the inability of the brain to adequately process the visual information that the eyes are sending to it. The traditional 20/20 acuity test only evaluates distance vision and cannot detect **learning-related vision problems**.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT VISION THERAPY PROVIDES A SOLUTION. Optometrists trained in Developmental Optometry have the skills to evaluate, diagnose and treat learning-related vision problems. These doctors can custom design an appropriate treatment program using **Vision Therapy and special glasses** that can put a child back on the road to high self-esteem and success in school.

THE FIRST STEP IS TO CONTACT THE COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS IN VISION DEVELOPMENT (COVD). COVD is the board-certifying organization for Developmental Optometrists and is committed to providing education and information on learning-related vision problems and vision therapy. **Call COVD at (888) 268-3770 or visit our website at www.covd.org.**



— Quick Facts —

- **COVD** is an international professional association of optometrists and vision therapists dedicated to ending reading and learning problems and the needless frustration suffered by children and adults with learning-related vision problems.
- Traditional testing for 20/20 **visual acuity** does not detect learning-related vision problems.
- **Developmental Optometrists** are trained in the diagnosis and treatment of vision problems that interfere with reading and learning.
- Scientific research has documented the effectiveness of **vision therapy** in developing and improving visual abilities resulting in enhanced school performance and improved self-esteem.
- **Parents Active for Vision Education (PAVE)** is an independent group of parent advocates that provide counsel to other parents seeking information on vision problems. Visit their website at www.pavevision.org.