



Reading Difficulty

This material will help you understand how your child's reading difficulty can be caused by vision problems.

Why is my child having difficulty reading?

About 20% of children have reading problems. In some cases, learning disabilities like dyslexia can cause children to struggle. But in some cases vision problems are the cause. Signs of vision problems include headaches, eyestrain, problems with copying, and being unable to focus on a task.

What vision problems affect reading?

Vision acuity or sharpness can affect your child's ability to see words clearly. Schools often hold screening tests that evaluate students' vision acuity. This test involves reading an eye chart from a distance. However, even if your child has 20/20 vision, he/she may still have a vision problem. Common issues include:

- Strabismus (eye misalignment)
- Amblyopia (lazy eye)
- Trouble with convergence
- Trouble with focusing

These problems are not always detected in vision screening tests. If your child is having difficulty reading, it is important that he/she is seen by an eye doctor.

What treatments are available?

Treatment depends on the type of vision problem your child has. Children with visual acuity problems are treated with glasses or contacts. Convergence problems may be treated with eye certain exercises.

For more information, scan these codes with your smartphone or visit the websites listed.



<http://www.aapos.org/terms/conditions/108>

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