

Visual Perception

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW?

Visual perception is the ability to understand what you see in your life and use with the other senses.

- Involves the eyes, brain and body motions
- Develops through experiences beginning at birth

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

- Children need to move, read, write and solve math problems
- Problems may show as:
 - Trouble knowing letters or words
 - Writing up or down hills
 - Burning, itching eyes
 - Holding a book very close or far
 - Missing when catching or throwing
 - Mistakes when copying



American Optometric Association (2000). Quick reference guide: Care of the patient with learning related vision problems. AOA, qrg 21/01.

WHAT DO I NEED TO DO?

- Change position of your baby's head while lying, sitting, or being held
- Get vision exams for your child
- Toss and catch balls using both hands
- Hit a hanging ball with a stick while standing, sitting or lying on the floor
- Play games such as ring toss, hopscotch, horseshoes or jacks
- Highlight writing line to draw attention to the space for writing
- Cut clutter on the paper by removing unneeded pictures or reducing problems on the page
- Teach concepts such as top, middle, bottom, left and right
- Add space between words by using mini candies, fingers or wooden sticks



Neil, P. A., Chee-Ruiter, C., Scheier, C., Lewkowicz, D. J., & Shimojo, S. (2006). Development of multisensory spatial integration and perception in humans. *Developmental Science*, 9, 454-464.

