

Signs of Possible Eye Trouble in Children



If one or more of these signs appear, take your child to an eye doctor right away.

WHAT DO YOUR CHILD'S EYES LOOK LIKE?

- > eyes don't line up, one eye appears crossed or looks out
- > eyelids are red-rimmed, crusted or swollen
- > eyes are watery or red (inflamed)

HOW DOES YOUR CHILD ACT?

- > rubs eyes a lot
- > closes or covers one eye
- > tilts head or thrusts head forward
- > has trouble reading or doing other close-up work, or holds objects close to eyes to see
- > blinks more than usual or seems cranky when doing close-up work
- > things are blurry or hard to see
- > squints eyes or frowns

WHAT DOES YOUR CHILD SAY?

- > "My eyes are itchy," "my eyes are burning" or "I can't see that very well."
- > After doing close-up work, your child says "I feel dizzy," "I have a headache" or "I feel sick/nauseous."
- > "Everything looks blurry," or "I see double."

REMEMBER, YOUR CHILD MAY STILL HAVE AN EYE PROBLEM EVEN IF HE OR SHE DOES NOT COMPLAIN OR HAS NOT SHOWN ANY UNUSUAL SIGNS.

over, please



LAZY EYE (AMBLYOPIA)

Lazy eye, or amblyopia, is a loss of vision in eyes that is not corrected by glasses. Crossed eyes, eyes that don't line up or one eye that focuses better than the other can cause amblyopia.

ASTIGMATISM

Astigmatism may result when the front of the cornea, the transparent window of the eye, has an irregular shape. Children with astigmatism usually see vertical lines more clearly than horizontal lines.

COLOR BLINDNESS

Children with color blindness are not really blind to color. Instead, they have trouble identifying some colors.

FARSIGHTEDNESS (HYPEROPIA)

In this condition, the eyeball is too short for the normal focusing power of the eye. Therefore, images of near objects may appear blurred.

NEARSIGHTEDNESS (MYOPIA)

In myopia, the eyeball is too long for the normal focusing power of the eye. As a result, the images of distant objects appear blurred.

STRABISMUS

Strabismus is a word for eyes that are not straight or do not line up with each other. If the problem is not treated, it can cause amblyopia.