

Vision is more than 20/20 eyesight. These developmental visual skills are the abilities a child's eyes and brain use together to read, write, learn, and move safely through the day. When one skill is weak, it can look like inattention, laziness, a behavior problem, or a learning gap — when the real cause is visual.



Fixation

Aiming both eyes accurately and holding steady on a target.

- Loses their place or re-reads the same line often
- Trouble holding steady eye contact or watching the teacher
- Eyes tire quickly; frequent rubbing or squinting
- Avoids sustained visual tasks like puzzles or board games



Saccades

Quick, accurate eye jumps from point to point across a line of text.

- Skips words or lines; loses place while reading
- Uses a finger or marker to track across the page
- Reading is slow and effortful despite good comprehension aloud
- Struggles to scan rows in charts, tables, or math problems



Pursuits

Smoothly tracking a moving target with both eyes together.

- Loses place copying from board to paper and back
- Struggles to track a ball or moving object in PE/sports
- Turns head instead of moving just the eyes to follow motion
- Hard time visually following a teacher's moving finger or pencil



Convergence

Both eyes turning inward together to focus on near objects like a book.

- Print appears to move, blur, or double while reading
- Headaches or eye strain during/after homework and screens
- Avoids reading or close-up work; low stamina for near tasks
- One eye may drift outward with fatigue on close tasks



Accommodation

Shifting and holding focus between near and far distances (board to notebook).

- Blurry vision switching between the board and their paper
- Loses focus stamina; work quality drops over a long assignment
- Rubs eyes, squints, or avoids sustained close work
- Takes much longer to complete near-work worksheets or reading



Binocularity

The two eyes working together as one team to build a single, 3-D image.

- Poor depth perception; clumsy on stairs or catching objects
- One eye may drift, turn, or get covered/closed to "help" the other
- Difficulty with sports, puzzles, and other hands-on tasks
- Tilts or turns head to favor one eye over the other



Visual Memory

Recalling and recognizing visual information after it is no longer in view.

- Trouble copying notes accurately from the board
- Spelling errors or letter reversals despite solid phonics skills
- Struggles to recall sight words or previously seen shapes/symbols
- Looks back and forth repeatedly between board and paper



Visual-Motor Integration

Coordinating what the eyes see with hand and body movement.

- Messy handwriting; trouble staying on lines or in margins
- Difficulty cutting, tracing, catching, or playing ball games
- Slow, effortful copying and weak eye-hand coordination
- Avoids drawing, block-building, and other hands-on activities