Do you know an infant or a child who appears to have difficulty seeing the world around him? Have you noticed any unusual visual behaviors or difficulty in one of your students or patients? Take a minute and find out how you can help put them in touch with agencies that may be of service. Let’s help children maximize their education by maximizing their VISION!

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State Leadership Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired Network

“EYE”
FIND
Identifying Children with Visual Impairments and Blindness
“According to some researchers, vision is usually involved in 90% of the learning that takes place in early development” (Ferrell, 1996, p89).

**Typical Visual Behaviors:**

- **Birth**
  - Focus on objects 8-10 inches away
  - Eyes have difficulty working together
- **3 months**
  - Tracks moving objects
  - Eyes are beginning to work together
  - Beginning of a directed reach
- **6 months**
  - Turns head to see objects
  - Accurate reach (depth perception)
  - Good color vision/favorite color
  - Sees at greater distances
  - Picks up dropped toys
- **12 months**
  - Shows interest in pictures
  - Points and gestures
  - Places shapes in board
  - Judges distances
  - Recognizes own face in mirror.
- **18 months**
  - Recognizes familiar objects
  - Scribbles with crayons or pens
  - Shows interest in exploring

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**Warning Signs**

**Atypical Visual Behaviors that might indicate the need for an examination and or assessment:**

- Moving closer to an object for viewing
- Tilting of the head to view objects or face
- Squinting
- Sensitivity to light
- Excessive rubbing of eyes
- Excessive tearing
- Consistent eye turn (amblyopia)
- Rapid eye movements (Nystagmus)

**Vision is not just in the structure of the eye.**

These medical conditions might indicate the need for an assessment by a teacher of students with visual impairments.

- Prematurity (i.e. ROP)
- Syndromes: (i.e. Down, Charge)
- Stroke
- Anoxia (oxygen deprivation)
- Glaucoma
- Cataracts
- Albinism
- Optic Nerve Hypoplasia
- Cerebral Palsy

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**“Eye Find”** assists in locating educational services for children birth to 21-years-old.

Contact your Regional Education Service Center. They are listed on the back of this brochure.

OR

DARS-Division of Blind Services
1-800-628-5115

OR

Texas School for the Blind & Visually Impaired Outreach Programs
512-206-9217