



# Learning-Related Vision Problems & Vision Therapy Facts & Figures

- The National Parent Teacher Association (NPTA) estimates that there are 10 million children under 10 years of age in the U.S. that have vision problems
- Up to 25% of all school age children have vision problems significant enough to impair academic performance. The rate may be as high as 60% for those children labeled as having learning problems
- An evaluation of the visual efficiency of beginning readers in a public school found that visual factors were the primary cause of reading failure and that most current school screenings are inadequate to detect these problems
- A study of inner city youths found that poor vision is related to academic and behavioral problems among at-risk children
- Vision problems are often typically misdiagnosed as learning or ADD/ADHD leading to special education intervention and unnecessary drug of school children.
- The 20/20 eye chart test (invented in the 1860s) only measures what you can see far away, not the "up-close" ability to see books or computers, nor the ability of the eyes and brain to work together in processing visual information.
  - Thorough vision examinations measure eye teaming (how the eyes work together), focusing (ease in sustaining focus for up-close work), and tracking SEIIs (how accurately and smoothly eyes move together across a page of print) as well as visual information processing abilities.
- Developmental Optometrists can provide vision evaluations that fully assess these vision problems. These doctors are trained in evaluation of learning-related vision problems and using special glasses and vision therapy.
  - Studies have shown that the correction of vision problems with vision therapy leads to significant reduction in visual symptoms and improvements in reading performances, 6, 7

## References:

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6. Optometry and Vision Science
7. Optometry: Journal of the American Optometric Association