

WHAT TO WATCH FOR: VISION & BEHAVIOR

Vision Problems Don't Always Look Like Vision Problems.

Children don't usually say "I can't see right." Instead, they show us with their **behavior**. This poster highlights **behavioral clues** that may signal a vision problem, even when a child passes a basic eye chart screening.

Watch for These Signs During Learning & Play:

At the Desk:

- ☐ Skips lines or loses place while reading
- ☐ Covers one eye or tilts head while working
- ☐ Complains of blurry or double vision
- ☐ Poor handwriting spacing or letter reversals
- ☐ Short attention span for visual tasks
- ☐ Rubs eyes, squints, or avoids close work

In Movement:

- ☐ Clumsy or uncoordinated despite normal strength
- ☐ Difficulty catching, kicking, or throwing a ball
- ☐ Often bumps into desks, walls, or other kids
- ☐ Avoids sports or fast-paced play
- ☐ Seems off-balance or unsure in space

In Behavior:

- ☐ Easily frustrated during homework or reading
- ☐ Fidgets or slouches when writing
- ☐ Appears inattentive—but is fine when content is read aloud
- ☐ Resists activities that involve visual effort
- ☐ Described as "bright but struggling"

A Normal Eye Exam Isn't Always Enough

These signs may point to visual issues with:

- Eye teaming
- Eye Focusing
- Eye Tracking
- Visual processing

Behavioral optometrists test **how a child uses their vision**, not just how clearly they see. Early identification can reduce frustration and unlock the child's ability to perform better.