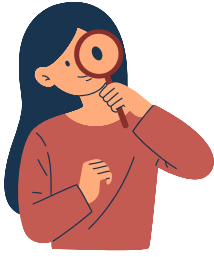


# A CLEAR PICTURE: VISION THERAPY AND READING

## VISUAL PROBLEMS ARE NOT THE PRIMARY CAUSE OF READING DIFFICULTIES



Children with dyslexia or reading difficulties have the same visual function as children without these conditions.

Most reading challenges stem from differences in how the brain processes language.

Dyslexic readers and beginning readers have similar eye movements. Irregular eye movement patterns are the result of word reading difficulties, not the cause.

## VISION THERAPY ALONE WILL NOT IMPROVE READING



Vision problems may co-occur with reading difficulties. However, vision therapy cannot build the language and decoding skills needed for long-term reading improvement.

Most children who have difficulty learning to read have normal vision.

Vision therapy, eye exercises, and tinted overlays do **not** improve the language-based skills needed for reading.

## VISION THERAPY IS NOT RECOMMENDED TO TREAT READING DIFFICULTIES



Misdiagnosis and ineffective therapy delay proper remediation and can drain financial resources.

Children showing signs of learning difficulties should receive early educational, psychological, and/or medical assessments.

If vision therapy was recommended to help your child improve their reading, get a second opinion from an independent M.D. who is an ophthalmologist.

## THE MOST EFFECTIVE INTERVENTION FOR READING DISORDERS IS EXPLICIT, EVIDENCE-BASED INSTRUCTION



This includes structured literacy approaches that teach:

- Phonological awareness
- Sound-symbol relationships
- Word reading and spelling skills

