APPROPRIATE VISION SCREENING TOOL EXAMPLES

States, and even separate school districts within states, have varying vision screening procedures and protocols. The following information provides examples of evidence-based tools.





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OBSERVATION / CHECKLIST APPROACH

TEST	AGES	TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
Observation	All	Signs of Possible Vision Problems in Children Signs of Possible Vision Problems in Children Problems in Children Proportion of Possible Vision Problems in Children Problems in Children Proportion of Possible Vision Problems in Children Problems in Childr	Observation/ checklist tool	Nothing seen	Children with one or more signs from screener observation, and/or parental or teacher concerns, should be referred for a comprehensive eye examination, even if the child passes vision screening tools.

TEST	AGES	TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
18 Key Vision Developmental Milestones - Checklist	Birth to 1st Birthday	18 Vision Development Milestones From Birth to Baby's First Birthday 18 Vision Development Milestones From Birth to Baby's First Birthday P. Ny Notingham Chapin, Edo – Kin Baddonaco, SA 18 Tips Bookets and a second second control of the se	Observation/ checklist tool Includes parent and caregiver activities	Follow instructions	Available in English and Spanish. Begin with 1st milestone regardless of infant's age to determine all milestones were met. Use tool monthly. English https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/05/18-Key-vision- guestions-to-ask-in-year-1 version-5.27.2020.pdf Spanish https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/06/Spanish 18- Key-vision-questions-to-ask-in-year-1 version- 5.27.2020-1.pdf Poster for Parents/Guardians English https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/05/18visiond evelop mentmilestones FINAL 4.20.20.pdf Spanish https://nationalcenter.preventblind ness.org/wp-content/uploads/sites/22/2020/07// ESPmi lestones8.5x11.pdf

OPTOTYPE-BASED SCREENING APPROACH

TEST	AGES	TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
Distance Visual Acuity	3, 4, 5, and 6 years	Single, surrounded optotypes in wheels or flip charts at 5 feet. LEA SYMBOLS® portion of Sight Line at 10 feet in critical line format. 9 x 14 charts Screening software with single, surrounded optotypes at 10 feet.	LEA SYMBOLS® or HOTV letters Additional 9 x 14 charts Additional 9 x 14 charts Additional 9 x 14 charts Toology to the control of the charts of the control of the cont	3yo – 20/50 line 4 and 5yo – 20/40 line 6yo and older – 20/32 line	Screen annually. Measure 10-foot screening distance between chart and child's eyes. Place arches of child's feet on the line when measuring the 10-foot distance, not heels or toes. Screen one eye at a time. Rescreen as soon as possible and no later than 6 months with the same screening tool. Refer to an eye care provider (pediatric optometrist, optometrist, pediatric ophthalmologist, or ophthalmologist) with experience examining young children. Use 9 x 14 charts in an illuminated cabinet (e.g., ESV1200 below) or place on a wall in a well-lit room.

OPTOTYPE-BASED SCREENING APPROACH (Continued)

TEST	AGES	TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
Distance Visual Acuity	Beginning at age 6 or 7 years, depending on when children can identify letters in random order	Tests of visual acuity at 10 feet, using standardized format. If you draw a line around the outside of the optotypes, the line will resemble an upside-down pyramid and not a rectangle. No more than 5 optotypes per line, unless using a 9" x 14" chart. Test of visual acuity should be 10 feet, not 20 feet, AND should have a 20/32 (10/16) line, not a 20/30 line. N D C V K C N K C R H N Z K D V C H V O R K R H S O N S O K S V Z K S V R H S O K S V Z	Response panel of Sloan Letters for students who use English as a second language and may need to match optotypes. CKNOR SVDZH	More than half of optotypes on 20/32 line with each eye (e.g., 3 of 5 optotypes)	Bright Futures recommends vision screening for well-child medical visits at ages 8, 10, 12, and 15 years. Measure 10-foot screening distance between chart and child's eyes. Place arch of child's foot on the line when measuring the 10-foot distance, not heels or toes. Screen one eye at a time. Rescreen as soon as possible and no later than 6 months with the same screening tool. Refer to an eye care provider (pediatric optometrist, optometrist, pediatric ophthalmologist, or ophthalmologist) with experience examining school-age children. Use a 9 x 14 Sloan Letters chart in an illuminated cabinet (e.g., ESV1200 below) or place it on a wall in a well-lit room.

OPTOTYPE-BASED SCREENING APPROACH (Continued)

TEST AC	GES TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
	Tests of visual acuity a feet for threshold and criline screening. AAPOS Basic Vision Screening Kit		Follow the instructions in the kits	Measure 10-foot screening distance between chart and child's eyes. Place arch of child's foot on the line when measuring the 10-foot distance, not heels or toes. Screen one eye at a time. Rescreen as soon as possible and no later than 6 months with the same screening tool. Refer to an eye care provider (pediatric optometrist, optometrist, pediatric ophthalmologist, or ophthalmologist) with experience examining preschool- and schoolage children.

INSTRUMENT-BASED SCREENING APPROACH

- For ages 1 and 2 years.
- As an alternative for optotype-based screening for ages 3, 4, and 5 years, with an evidence-based eye chart and approved occluders as a backup if an instrument reading cannot be captured.
- Not currently recommended for ages 6 years and older because of insufficient data.
- Prevent Blindness does not provide information on specific devices to use but can provide technical assistance on what to look for when purchasing devices.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR MISCELLANEOUS MANDATED SCREENING COMPONENTS

TEST	AGES	TOOLS	OPTOTYPES	PASS	NOTES AND TIPS
Near visual acuity screening Critical line Binocularly	3, 4, and 5 years	LEA SYMBOLS® near chart with 16-inch cord HOTV near chart with 16-inch cord	LEA SYMBOLS® or HOTV letters	Correct identification of 3 optotypes on age-matched lines 3 yo – 20/50 line 4 and 5 yo – 20/40 line	Plus lens testing is not a near visual acuity test. Can conduct full threshold screening (starting at top line and moving down the chart) one eye at a time OR critical line screening with each eye individually, or with both eyes open. Hold cord at child's temple. Ensure cord remains tight to prevent child from moving closer to or farther away from the chart.
Near visual acuity screening Critical line Binocularly	6 years and older or when children know letters in random order	Sloan letters ZRKDC DNOHV SZNDC VKONR KORN KORN	Sloan letters	Correct identification of 3 optotypes on 20/32 line	Plus lens testing is not a near visual acuity test. Can conduct full threshold screening (starting at top line and moving down the chart) one eye at a time OR critical line screening with each eye individually, or with both eyes open. Hold cord at child's temple. Ensure cord remains tight to prevent child from moving closer to or farther away from the chart.

Near visual acuity screening Critical line Binocularly	3 years and older, including 6 years and older	LEA SYMBOLS® and Sloan letters near critical line chart with 16-inch cord	LEA SYMBOLS [®] and Sloan letters	Correctly identify 3 of 5 optotypes for: 3yo – 20/50 line 4yo – 20/40 line 5yo and older – 20/32 line	If using Sloan letters 20/32 line and child does not know letters in random order, move down one line on same side of chart to the LEA SYMBOLS® 20/32 line for children aged 5 years and older. Hold cord at child's temple. Ensure cord remains tight to prevent child from moving closer to or farther away from the chart.
Stereopsis	All	PASS Test™ 2	NA	3yo and 4yo – pass Card B (no testing with Card C) 5yo and older – pass Cards B and C	If student wears prescription glasses and you do not know the reason, place polarized glasses over prescription glasses when screening. You may need a larger set of polarized glasses. If the child cannot see the 3-D image, then try conducting the test without the child wearing their glasses. Ensure no glare or shadow on cards. Hold cards with edges of fingertips. Tilt cards slightly backward – about a 10-degree tilt.
Color Vision Deficiency Screening	3 years and older	Book with pseudoisochromatic plates. HRR Color Screening Book 6-Plate Screening Version Opposity Standard For Fig. 19 Standard For Fi	Symbols and letters	Follow manufacturer instructions	Replace book every 7 years; colors desaturate over time. Use cotton swab or brush for pointing or tracing the image as oil from fingertips will desaturate colors. Ensure tool selected is for screening purposes only vs. a diagnostic tool.

Color Vision Deficiency Screening	3 years and older	Waggoner Color Vision Testing Made Easy Waggerr Waggerr	Symbols	Follow manufacturer instructions	Replace book every 7 years; colors desaturate over time. Use cotton swab or brush for pointing or tracing the image as oil from fingertips will desaturate colors. Ensure tool selected is for screening purposes only vs. a diagnostic tool.
Occluders	3 years to 10 years	Occluders	NA	NA	Preferred occluders = adhesive patches, 2-inch-wide hypoallergenic surgical tape, or occluder glasses. Unacceptable occluders include: Tissues, hands, paper or plastic cups, paper occluders, adults holding occluders over child's eyes, and occluder paddles.
Occluders	10 years and older	"Mardi Gras mask" or "Lollypop" occluders.	NA	NA	Unacceptable occluders include: Tissues, hands, paper or plastic cups, paper occluders, adults holding occluders over child's eyes. Hold "lollypop" occluders with handle toward temple, not chin.



Vision Screening Certification

Information for Prevent Blindness's nationally recognized online vision screening certification course that you can complete online at your own pace.

Earn 3-year national certification and 5 contact hours for professional development.

Prevent Blindness Children's Vision Screening Certification Course

https://nationalcenter.preventblindness.org/prevent-blindness-childrens-vision-screening-certification-course/

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