

Vision rehabilitation deals with vision troubles beyond just clear sight. Therapists work closely with vision specialists, developmental optometrists, ophthalmologists and families to make a plan that is best for the child.



- ❖ Children who start at an early age get the most out of their visual processing and function.
- ❖ Vision rehabilitation is included in regular occupational therapy sessions after a vision specialist does a formal assessment and makes recommendations for the child.

COMMON INDICATORS

A child may have trouble with visual processing if they show some of these signs:

- ❖ Trouble learning to read/write letters and sentences
- ❖ Handwriting and drawing is sloppy or hard to read
- ❖ Writing and drawing outside of the lines
- ❖ Skipping words or lines when reading
- ❖ Slower than peers at doing reading and writing tasks
- ❖ Not finishing reading and writing tasks
- ❖ Difficulty with tasks like jigsaw puzzles, dot-to-dots and coloring pictures
- ❖ Poor visual attention or trouble following visual targets
- ❖ Very clumsy or has poor body awareness
- ❖ Trouble telling the difference between right/left
- ❖ Reversing letters and numbers when writing
- ❖ Mismatch between knowledge and school performance

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TREATMENT FOCUS

- ❖ Oculomotor skills, such as following moving objects or switching focus from one target to another
- ❖ Visual perceptual skills, or the ability to see and understand visual information
- ❖ Body awareness and how that works with vision and movement
- ❖ Hand-eye coordination, which can help with activities such as catching a ball or building Legos
- ❖ Reaching across the midline of the body
- ❖ Visual processing speed
- ❖ Primitive reflex integration
- ❖ Low vision, such as blurred vision, blind spots or tunnel vision
- ❖ Visual neglect or inattention, loss of vision on one side



TREATMENT METHODS

There are many ways that occupational therapy can help with visual difficulties. Some unique equipment that ChildServe has to offer includes:

- ❖ **Dynavision:** A large light board that has 64 raised light switches that light up one at a time in random order. Works on visual awareness, hand-eye coordination, and visual processing speed.
- ❖ **Prism:** A type of lens that shifts our visual field in a certain direction. Used for visual neglect, visual field cuts, toe walking, body awareness, crossing the midline and double vision.