What should a parent look for?

The following are some red flags that you should look for:

- Eye turn (in or out)
- Eye redness
- Excessive tearing of the eyes
- A white pupil
- The child not looking at or following colorful objects or faces of parents.

When should your child be seen?

The first eye examination should be done at 6 to 9 months of age then every 1 to 2 years based on the exam findings. Your child should be seen by an eye care professional before they start school. Your doctor may want to see your child more frequently if they need glasses or have an eye problem. To find a doctor, visit www.infantsee.org.

InfantSEE®

Call today to schedule an appointment:

Northeastern State University
Oklahoma College of Optometry
870 E Crafton Street
Tahlequah, OK 74464
Phone: 918-458-2109
Web: https://optometry.nsuok.edu/Clinics/InfantVision.aspx

Infant Vision Awareness & Examination

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INFANT VISION & EXAMINATION

When a baby is born they may take a few minutes to open their eyes. Once their eyes are open, they start to learn how to use their eyes and what they are seeing.

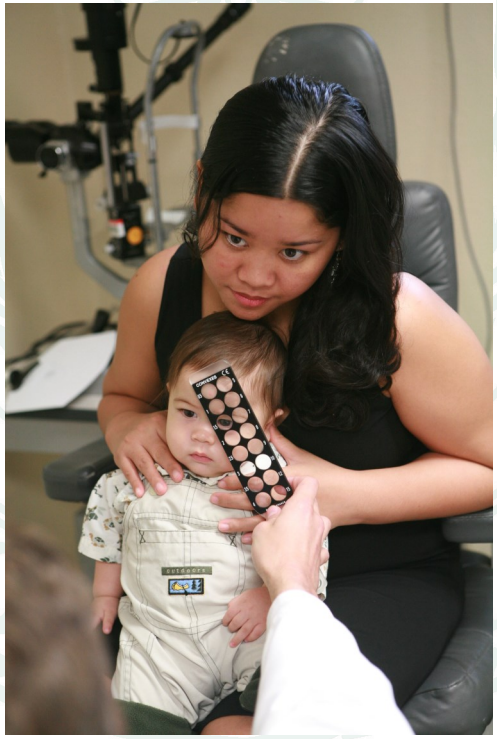
It is through the visual and motor system that a major part of learning occurs in the early years of life. With vision problems this learning is hindered and a child could have difficulties developing.

One out of twenty pre-school children have vision problems that require glasses to help with their near or farsightedness. More than half of these children are not getting the care they need and have poor vision.

Your eye doctor has various methods of determining the quality of a baby's vision and their prescription. They can also examine the eye health accurately with the instruments they have.

HYPEROPIA (FARSIGHTED)

Farsightedness occurs when the eyeball is too short or the cornea is too flat. Most babies are born with a fair amount of farsightedness. This farsightedness becomes less as the child ages. An excessive amount of hyperopia may lead to a condition known as esotropia, when one of the eyes turns in.



MYOPIA (NEARSIGHTED)

Nearsightedness occurs when the eyeball is too long or the cornea is too steep. Babies who are born early or premature are more likely to be nearsighted at birth.

AMBLYOPIA (LAZY EYE)

Amblyopia is when one of the eyes does not see as well as the other eye, even with glasses or contact lenses. This can occur when there is an imbalance in the prescription of the two eyes, especially with farsightedness or if your child has a long-standing eye turn (strabismus).

Amblyopia occurs most commonly in the first 8 years of life. There are 75,000 new cases of amblyopia each year in children. The earlier your eye doctor catches this condition, the easier it is to treat and the better the outcome.