

## DID YOU KNOW?

Between 70-80% of what a child learns is visually acquired!

More than 60% of the children in the United States have not been examined by an optometrist or ophthalmologist by the age of 6.

Most people think that when they take their children to the pediatrician that any of the problems that the child has will be discovered and treated. Most pediatricians have only had a small amount of training related to the eyes, so vision problems are more likely detected and addressed by an optometrist or ophthalmologist.

A child does not know that he or she has a vision problem. You know when you need to go to the eye doctor because you have had previous experience at seeing well. You can tell the eye doctor when what he is doing helps your vision. The young child doesn't know how well they should be able to see. Most young children under the age of 5 are not capable of communicating effectively to solve the problem.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

If parents or a childcare centers are interested in getting a screening scheduled, they can contact a local Lions Club, or contact Lion Janice Chapman, State Program Coordinator of Operation Kidsight at 317-578-0491 or [kidsight@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kidsight@sbcglobal.net).



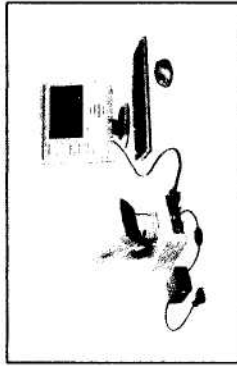
The local Indiana Lions Clubs in your community, in conjunction with the Indiana Lions Eye and Tissue Transplant Bank, Inc. and the Indiana University Department of Ophthalmology offer free eye screening to children in the community at scheduled screenings sites. The screening provides instant readings of your child's eyes to determine the presence of possible eye disorders. No physical contact is made with the child and no eye drops or medications are used. This screening is approximately 85-90% effective in detecting significant factors that can cause a decrease in vision.



**We Serve**

## WHAT

Lions use the Pedia Vision screening device to identify children whose eyes may have some type of defect, which, if left untreated, may lead to a lifetime of vision problems or blindness. Vision Screening can detect near sightedness, far sightedness, astigmatism, and other amblyopia (dull vision) factors.



## WHY

The eye, muscles that control the eye, optic nerve, and the area of the brain that gives us vision are completely developed, no matter how perfectly or imperfectly, by the age of six. Vision deficiencies that may have occurred during development will be very difficult or impossible to treat after the age of 6 when development has completed. Many of these problems when caught early enough can be completely corrected, and the earlier they are diagnosed, the better the chance of correction and the easier and less expensive the treatment.

## WHO

Operation KidSight volunteers only screen children ages 1 through 5. The child has to be able to fixate (look at a specific object), which requires them to be at least one year of age. If they are older than 72 months, they may be more effectively screened by other methods.

## WHERE and WHEN

Vision Screening is conducted at neighborhood childcare centers because they have both the facilities as well as proximity to a group of children. Before the screening is done, the child's parents must give their approval, and the childcare facility must approve the screening being conducted at their site.

## HOW

Readings are taken of the child's eyes while the child looks at the PediaVision being used for the screening. It is as easy as having their picture taken. If further examination is warranted, the parents are advised by mail or phone so that they can have their child examined by an eye doctor of their choosing.

## COST

The cost of the screening is paid in full by the Lions using funds raised by Lions in community fund raising projects. Your support of Lions projects pays for this and many other Lions services in the community.

## WHAT LIONS DO NOT DO

Lions do not recommend any particular eye doctors. Lions do not make diagnosis and do not examine a child's eyes beyond taking readings. Lions are trained only to take the readings.

