

Stars In Your Eyes

vision training center



www.austinvt.com

Dr. Emily Schottman, Developmental Optometrist

Board-Eligible in College of Vision Development

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Mayor Lee Leffingwell Proclaims August as “Vision is for Learning Month”

August 1, 2009 (Austin, TX). According to the *Vision Council of America*, eighty percent of learning is visual and 1 in 4 children have vision problems.¹ **Stars in Your Eyes Vision Training Center** is launching their annual campaign to educate Austinites on the importance of diagnosing vision problems that can lead to learning-related vision problems which are undetectable in traditional 20/20 eye exams.

Austin is joining 11 other states and 14 other cities in this exciting event. **Stars in Your Eyes** is celebrating with FREE specialized vision and learning screenings at our Rosedale office during the month of August.

Call (512)371-0144 to schedule today.

The five most common signs that a vision problem may be interfering with your child’s ability to read and learn are:

- skipping or rereading of lines,
- poor reading comprehension,
- taking much longer to do homework than peers or siblings,
- reversing letters such as b's into d's when reading or writing, and
- short attention span when reading or doing homework.

**Vision is more than 20/20.
It includes over 25 brain skills
needed to learn.**

**These develop over time and
can be trained to improve
vision and intelligence.**

Any one of these symptoms is a sign of a possible vision problem. A more in-depth symptom checklist is available at austinvt.com/docs/ChildChecklist.pdf.

Dr. Schottman emphasizes:

- “Vision is a complex process that involves over 20 visual skills and more than 65% of all pathways in the brain. Problems with vision can cause academic and behavioral problems which often go unreported by children who do not know they see differently than their peers.”
- “Families often get a false sense of security that their child has 20/20 eyesight when, in fact, their reading vision is blurry, eye tracking is off or comprehension is low. It is vital that Austin children get BOTH an eye exam AND a Vision & Learning screening each year to confirm they have the vision to reach their true potential.”
- “Closing underperforming schools and low TAKS scores are merely symptoms of a bigger problem in Austin. We are concerned with addressing the **causes** of why a child falls behind and how undetected visual problems can interfere with learning in each new school year.”

“If the key to a better society is education, the key to a better education is better vision. If you don’t have that key, you can’t open the door to a better life.”

– Luci Baines Johnson, Foundation for Vision Awareness & Vision Therapy Graduate

¹ http://www.thevisioncouncil.org/news/news_item.cfm?OID=424, Vision Council of America News Article: Pencils, Pens and Eye Exams. Prepare Your Child for School Success with Preventive Vision Care, September 10, 2007, Alexandria, VA.