



Our Children:

The true focus of the Lions Vision Screening program is to help children in our Communities.

**We can see them,
but can they see us?**

Indicators of potential eye problems

- attempts to brush away blurred vision
- blinking more than usual
- rubbing eyes frequently
- squinting when focusing on distant objects
- frowning excessively
- tilting the head to the side
- stumbling over small objects
- sensitivity to light
- red, swollen, or encrusted eyelids
- recurring sties in the eyes
- inflamed or watery eyes.

Lions: Knights of the Blind

Lions are known for their service to persons who are blind and visually impaired.

This dedicated service began in 1925. During a Lions International Convention, Helen Keller, a woman who had been blind and deaf since childhood, challenged Lions to become "Knights of the Blind in the crusade against darkness". Lions accepted Keller's challenge.

Today, Lions Clubs around the world are involved in many sight related areas in order to help prevent blindness.



Vision Screening for young children

If you would like to be a part of the Lions family, or for more information about what the Lion's family does in your community, contact your local Lions, Lioness club.



WE SERVE

District A-16 Lions/Lioness



Vision Screening for Young Children

District A-16 Lions/Lioness
Serving the area from Fowlers
Corners to King City,
Haliburton to Lake Ontario.

Vision Screening Procedures

We use 3 procedures to screen a child's vision.

1. Far Visual Acuity

This involves the use of a distance chart, with symbols easily identified by young children:

circle, square, house, apple

2. Alignment

This involves the use of three dimensional pictures and "magic sunglasses" to determine whether both eyes are working together.

3. Auto Refractor

The Welsh Allyn Auto Refractor takes a reading of both eyes and displays a reading. **A report with the results is sent home to the parents in a sealed envelope.**



Why Vision Screening?

Since eighty percent of what children learn comes from their eyes and vision, it is important to detect vision problems before they affect a child's performance in school. It is estimated that one in six children has a vision problem.

The service we provide is a vision screening, and not a complete eye examination. It is designed to identify children who have trouble seeing things at a distance, up close, or who have difficulty making both eyes work together.

No attempt will be made to check the health of the eyes. A vision screening does not replace a complete eye exam and it will not identify every child with an eye problem.

Eye care professionals recommend that every child have his or her first eye examination by the age of six months, and when no abnormalities are detected, again at the age of three. Annual eye examinations are recommended for school aged children, and are covered by OHIP.

Success Stories



Every Vision Screening team has success stories about children they have identified with less than perfect vision

Here are some examples:

- a sibling who was helped because a parent followed up on a Vision Screening and took all their children to an eye care professional
- children who are now receiving extensive medical help as a result of Vision Screening
- a child who had a brain tumor discovered as a result of the Vision Screening program
- a school administrator's child who needed glasses, changing their parent's skepticism about the need for a Vision Screening program
- A student was tested and consequently taken to an Optometrist who happens to be a Lion. He told his club to "keep doing Vision Screening because had that child not been caught at that time, he would have been blind within a year and there would have been nothing I could have done for him".