



OHIO
AMBLYOPE
REGISTRY

Education Book



OHIO AMBLYOPE REGISTRY

What is Amblyopia

Amblyopia (am-blē-'ō-pē-ə) is sometimes called “lazy eye”. Amblyopia means the vision is poor in one eye. Amblyopia can't always be seen and needs to be diagnosed by an eye care professional.

How it happens

In amblyopia, visual information either fails to transmit or is poorly transmitted from the eye to the brain for a continuous period of time. The eye is a camera that sends a message to the brain. Your brain tells you what you are seeing. Anything that interferes with the signal will cause loss of vision in an eye.

There is a cure

Amblyopia is a treatable condition. The most common treatment for amblyopia is patching (covering) the strong “good” eye to force the weak (bad) eye to work.

Lazy eye vs. Strabismus vs. Ptosis

“Lazy eye” refers to poor vision in people who have amblyopia. It is often misused by the general population when either describing an eye that drifts inward (toward the nose) or outward (toward the ear) or a droopy eyelid. The medical term for eye misalignment is strabismus and the medical term for droopy eyelid is Ptosis.

Early diagnosis is the key

There are many eye conditions and diseases that can affect a child's vision. Early diagnosis and treatment are critical to maintaining your child's vision. The earlier amblyopia is treated the better the visual outcome.





What type of Amblyopia “lazy eye” might your child have?

There are several types:

1 - Strabismic Amblyopia is when the eyes are not straight. The treatment is covering the good eye to force the bad eye to work. Treatment could also include the need for surgery.

2 - Refractive Amblyopia is when the focusing power of the two eyes is different. Treatment is a combination of glasses to equal focusing and patching the good eye.

3 - Deprivation Amblyopia can be caused by an interruption of light rays that need to be focused by the eye to see. Treatment could mean the need for surgery to correct the problem, along with patching.



Helping lazy eyes
become healthy eyes.

Problems associated with untreated Amblyopia

- *Decreased vision in one or two eyes that cannot later be corrected by glasses*
- *Difficulty in school with reading*
- *Change in behavior/depression*
- *Legal blindness*

Remember the good eye is being covered (patched) to force the bad eye to work.

Patching can be difficult: Overcoming barriers

Here are a few ideas to help with patching:

- *With older children, explain the importance of the patch.*
- *Rewards.*
- *Patch the child's favorite stuffed toy.*
- *Enlist the help of others (Teachers, Coaches, etc.).*
- *Establish a routine by patching consistently at the same time every day.*



Helpful tips if your child is experiencing skin irritation to adhesive patches.

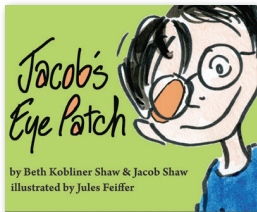
- ***Prior to applying the patch apply a thin coat of a liquid anti-acid (Mylanta® or milk of magnesia) or Cavilon™ around the eye. Let dry and then put the patch on.***
- ***After the patch is removed, lightly apply Vitamin E oil.***

If you are still experiencing irritation after using the tips above contact your eye care professional.



Reading book ideas

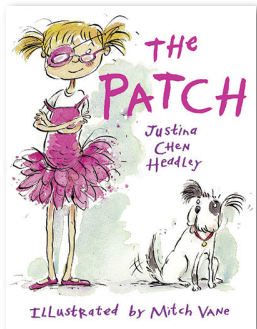
The most popular:



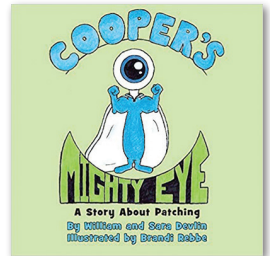
Jacob's Eye Patch:
By Beth Kobliner Shaw
and Jacob Shaw



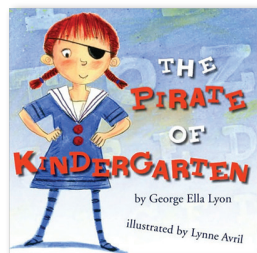
Amazing Amber:
By Eagle Ngo, Mitchell Bagley,
and Jason Cheng



The Patch:
By Justina Chen Headley



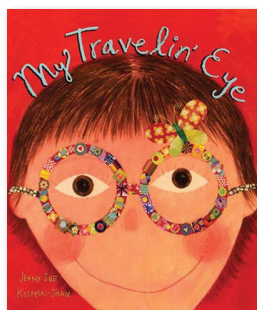
Cooper's Mighty Eye:
By Sara Devlin



The Pirate of Kindergarten:
By George Ella Lyon



Avery Takes The Stage:
By Kristen Silva



My Travlin' Eye:
By Jenny Sue KostECKI-Shaw

Disclaimer: The books listed do not reflect the opinion, treatment regimen suggestions or medical advice of the OAR.



How to wear an eye patch!

Adhesive Eye Patch

The adhesive patch should be angled so the more narrow part crosses the bridge of the nose and the wider part is on the cheekbone. It's important to make certain that the child is not able to peek through the holes.



Cloth Eye Patch + Glasses

A cloth patch is worn over the child's eye glasses. It's as easy as sliding the cloth patch over the lens. There are right cloth patches and left cloth patches available depending on which eye your doctor required your child to patch.



Adhesive Eye Patch + Glasses

If your child wears glasses, the glasses should be worn over the adhesive patch. You should not stick the patch on the glasses lens. This will not be effective.



The Ohio Amblyope Registry (OAR) is a free program that is funded through the generous donations from Ohioans when renewing their license plates (Save Our Sight fund).



The OAR program provides free treatment supplies (eye patches), educational and compliance information and support to any child, under the age of 18, and their family in the state of Ohio diagnosed with Amblyopia.

Ohio Amblyope Registry
1-877-808-2422
ohioamblyoperegistry.com



© Funded by the Ohio Department of Health/Bureau of Maternal and Child Health, Save Our Sight