MBLYOPE Lazy Eye News



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**Lazy Eye News** is the newsletter for the **Ohio Amblyope Registry (OAR)**. It is designed to highlight the services and resources available through the OAR.

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#### YOU CAN NOW REGISTER FOR FREE EYE PATCHES ON OUR WEBSITE!





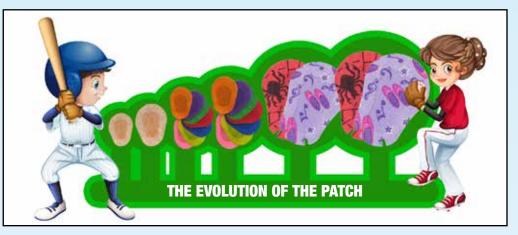
# THE STORY OF THE EYE PATCH

An eye patch or an eye occluder is a protective cover that is worn in front of one eye. It may look like a plastic circle placed over one eye and attached around the head by an elastic band or by a string. It can also look like an adhesive bandage placed over one eye, or look like a piece of cloth that can be inserted over a pair of glasses.

In the years before advanced medicine and surgery, eye patches were common for people who had lost or injured an eye. They were particularly prevalent among members of dangerous occupations, such as pirates, soldiers and sailors who could have lost an eye in battle, as well as blacksmiths who used them to cover one eye for protection from sparks while working. But with the advances in medicine, doctors discovered that the eye patch could also be used, with children, for the treatment of amblyopia.

Children diagnosed with amblyopia, commonly referred to as lazy eye, will sometimes have to wear an eye patch as part of their treatment. Luckily for all of the amblyopic children today the adhesive eye patch underwent a huge transformation to become a flexible, breathable, feather light, pretty, colorful item that can even be coordinated with outfits every day. Wearing an eye patch does not have to be boring anymore!

Here is a picture that demonstrates how the eye patch changed with time!



Finally, make sure you are following what your doctor says about patching. Your eye doctor will know if you are not wearing your eye patch as recommended!



# **DID YOU KNOW**

How You Can Help Your Child With Wearing The Patch

- 1. Explain the importance of wearing the patch to your child.
- 2. Positive reinforcement.
- 3. Make a game out of wearing the patch.
- 4. Enlist teachers, relatives and others to help reinforce patching scheduled.
- 5. Reward program. Patch your child's favorite stuffed animal or toy.
- 6. Keep your eye doctor appointments.



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