

III. Observations: What to Look For

Things that May Mean a Vision or Hearing Problem in Young Children

Associated with Seeing	Associated with Hearing
<p>Differences in How Eyes Look:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Drooping eyelid ⑥ One eye slightly higher or lower than the other eye ⑥ Obvious differences in the shape or structure of the eyes ⑥ Pupil of the eye is not round, clear, black ⑥ White of the eye is red and sore looking ⑥ Eyes are watery even when baby is not crying  <p>Unusual Eye Movements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Eyes move in jerky way back and forth, or up and down ⑥ Eyes do not move together ⑥ Eye turns inward or outward after 4-6 mos. old <p>Unusual Gaze or Head Positions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Tilts or turns head in certain way when looking at an object ⑥ Holds object close to eyes ⑥ Seems to be looking beside, under, or above the person or object ⑥ Baby is very sensitive to bright light and squints, closes eyes, or turns away from it ⑥ Gazes directly into bright light. <p>Absence of Visual Behaviors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ No face-to-face eye contact by 3 months ⑥ Does not blink when touched at bridge of nose ⑥ Does not look at objects, or follow moving objects, by 3 months 	<p>Differences in How Face or Ears Look:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Cleft lip and palate ⑥ Head or neck have malformations ⑥ Ears are malformed, or there may be no opening at ear canal; pits, skin tags near ear ⑥ Frequent earaches or ear infections ⑥ Discharge from the ears  <p>Unusual Listening Behaviors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Few or inconsistent responses to sounds ⑥ Does not seem to listen ⑥ Does not turn when name is called ⑥ Notices certain types of sounds more than others <p>Unusual Vocal Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Does not make a lot of different sounds ⑥ Voice sounds different; can't make certain speech sounds ⑥ Is behind in talking (no spoken words at 15 months; fewer than 50 words at 24 months) <p>Other Behaviors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ⑥ Pulls on ears or puts hands over ears ⑥ Breathes through mouth ⑥ Cocks head to one side <p><i>(Sources: Calvello, 1990; Chen, 1998, 1990; Fewell, 1983; Gatty, 1996; Joint Committee on Infant Hearing, 2007; Roman-Lantzy, 2013; Teplin, 1995.)</i></p>