Vision Development
Old or New
Glen T. Steele, O.D. FCOVD FAAO
Southern College of Optometry

What is Vision Development?
- The world is a "buzzing, blooming confusion"
- Is it really?
- Does development "just happen?"
- At birth, babies begin imposing an order on and organizing the environment using whatever tools are available.
- Differences in development would likely lie in the level of sophistication developed in the use of those tools.

Visual Development

Visual Development
Newborn  1 month old  2 month old
3 month old  6 month old  12 month old

Acquisition of Tools
- How do they acquire those tools?
  - Movement, movement, movement
  - Reaching, acting, doing
  - Doing, making mistakes, correcting
  - Doing, acting, expanding

1000 Times Makes It Automatic
- "A practical rule of thumb is that it takes about 1,000 repetitions of a new behavior before it becomes "Automatic." How many people deny themselves behavioral change by giving up too soon?"

Integrative Neuroscience
edited by Evian Gordon
Harwood Academic Publishers

Presenter Disclosures
Glen T. Steele, O.D. FCOVD FAAO

(1) The following personal financial relationships with commercial interests relevant to this presentation existed during the past 12 months:

No Relationships to Disclose
How (why) do parents try to speed up the process?
Does this interfere with reaching milestones at an appropriate time?
Do things like this interfere with vision development and overall development?

Typically, they do not! It’s not that they don’t care – it’s that they don’t know! This magnifies the need for early identification and intervention.
Starting Early

- School Readiness begins in infancy!
- Vision development is a significant part of that process

Social and Emotional Milestones – CDC

- **12 months**
  - Shy or anxious with strangers
  - Cries when mother or father leaves
  - Enjoys imitating people in his play
  - Shows specific preferences for certain people and toys
  - Tests parental responses to his actions during feedings
  - Tests parental responses to his behavior
  - May be fearful in some situations
  - Prefers mother and/or regular caregiver over all others
  - Repeats sounds or gestures for attention
  - Finger-feeds himself
  - Extends arm or leg to help when being dressed

Social and Emotional Milestones – vision

- **12 months**
  - Shy or anxious with strangers
  - Cries when mother or father leaves
  - Enjoys imitating people in his play
  - Shows specific preferences for certain people and toys
  - Tests parental responses to his actions during feedings
  - Tests parental responses to his behavior
  - May be fearful in some situations
  - Prefers mother and/or regular caregiver over all others
  - Repeats sounds or gestures for attention
  - Finger-feeds himself
  - Extends arm or leg to help when being dressed

Cognitive Milestones

- Explores objects in many different ways (shaking, banging, throwing, dropping)
- Finds hidden objects easily
- Looks at correct picture when the image is named
- Imitates gestures
- Begins to use objects correctly (drinking from cup, brushing hair, dialing phone, listening to receiver)

Copy Forms

Shelov, S Caring for your infant and young child
Sadie +7.00 at 7 years of age

> "School\Sadie's Samples1.pdf"

> "School\Sadie's Samples2.pdf"

An Epidemic

> InfantSEE – 10% of babies show a risk factor
> See to Learn (Kansas) – 15% of three year olds show risk factors
> Often stated – 20% of school aged kids have risk factors that have not been identified
> Our current methodology is not getting better – it is getting worse
> Our current system is NOT WORKING
Call to Action

- School readiness begins in infancy
- Vision Development is a part of school readiness
- Raise awareness of all professions that vision is an essential benefit in the Affordable Care Act
- Raise awareness parents with the need for early examination
- Early Identification and appropriate intervention leads to more productive life

Contact Information

Glen T. Steele – gssteele@sco.edu
901-722-3284