

5 Eye Chart Recommendations:

When selecting an eye chart to use for screening children, follow the recommendations below written by an experienced vision screening expert, Dr. Kay Chaplin. Following these recommendations will help you select an eye chart that meets scientifically-proven standards for vision screening.

1 Each line of an eye chart should have at least 5 symbols or letters (optotypes). Some appropriate charts might have 4 optotypes on the top line.

2 The spacing between optotypes on a line should be the same size of the optotypes on that line. In other words, you should be able to place a full optotype between two optotypes on one line.

3 The space between rows of optotypes should be the same size as the next smaller line down.

4 The geometric progression of optotype size should be equal to 0.1 log unit, which gives an upside-down triangle shape to the lines on the eye chart.

5 Choose eye charts with optotypes that blur equally when the child can no longer identify the majority of symbols or letters on a line and are culturally neutral, such as eye charts using LEA Symbols.



P. Kay Nottingham Chaplin, Ed.D.

Dr. Chaplin has more than 8 years of experience as Director and Lead Trainer for the Vision Initiative for Children (VIC) at West Virginia University (WVU) Eye Institute and 9 years of experience as Director of a West Virginia early intervention program for infants and toddlers with developmental delays or disabilities and their families.

At WVU, Dr. Chaplin helped create the VIC program and taught nearly 1,600 distinct individuals to screen the vision of preschoolers in 180 workshops. Participants included pediatricians and family physicians and their staffs, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurses, medical assistants, school nurses, child care providers, and Head Start personnel. She has also been published in peer-reviewed publications, such as *Pediatrics*, the *Official Journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics*.

Dr. Chaplin is a member of the Westover Lions Club in West Virginia, serves as the Volunteer Vision Screening Program and Test Design Consultant for the West Virginia Lions Sight Conservation Foundation, Inc., and is a member of the Vision Screening Committee of the American Association of Certified Orthoptists.

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