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The Hidden Link Between Vision And Learning: Why Millions Of Learning-Disabled Children Are Misdiagnosed



Synopsis

Vision, in all its complexity, is more than meets the eye. The knowledge that lies between the covers of this book will define, with depth and clarity, what this magnificent sense actually encompasses and why it is critical to the learning process. Far beyond 20/20, vision involves more than two-dozen skills that enable us to navigate through the world. There are inestimable numbers of children who are struggling with learning, and compromised in ways most people are unaware of, because these little-known visual skills are not functioning properly. This can profoundly impact a child's success in school, and in life. The symptoms of an unrecognized vision disorder can mimic other conditions, for which many children may be classified or medicated. Because of this, the potential for misdiagnosing the true cause of a child's struggles is enormous. This book reveals the untold facts about the sense we rely on most and understand the least. You will come away fully informed, enriched, and equipped with answers that will shed light on why so many children are beset with stress and struggle.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

The symptoms of many vision problems can mimic disorders such as dyslexia and ADHD. As Rosen, a mom and a teacher, capably explains, that's one reason why it's a big deal if eyesight issues go undetected. She learned this fact when she found out that her own daughter fell below grade level in written expression. It turns out that she had a previously undiagnosed condition that caused her to see double, which made it difficult for her to track lines of print on a page.... This

well-presented, scholarly effort is rich in information, and parents and teachers of children with disabilities will find it useful. (Booklist) Seeing is not always believingâ€”or understandingâ€”especially for youngsters ... Visionâ€”not just eyesight, but visionâ€”is so critical to learning that it impacts a child's academic success in very significant ways. There are untold numbers of youngsters struggling with their learning because their visual skills are not functioning properly. And too often, these youngsters are not diagnosed, they're misdiagnosed, or they are shunted to the side and labeled. Ms. Rosen ... has authored a groundbreaking, eye-opening book about this little-known learning and behavioral problem. In *The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning: Why Millions of Learning-Disabled Children are Misdiagnosed* Ms. Rosen takes a very complex subject and clarifies it for the lay person, bringing to light the issue through her assiduous research and her own experience as a mother to a youngster who overcame vision-related learning problems. (The Jewish Standard) Bravo Wendy Rosen! Her book, *The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning*, is going to help many children get the help they need. The book takes the reader (hopefully parents and teachers of children who are struggling in school) through a logical progression in understanding the relationship between vision and learning.... Thank you Wendy Rosen, for encouraging so many to get involved and reminding us why it is important and how much is at stake. (Mindsight, the COVD Blog) In *The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning*, Wendy Beth Rosen has made an important addition to the ongoing effort to get America's children the vision care they need. The importance of this effort cannot be understated: If a child is not able to see to read, that child will not be successful in school and in life. Vision comes before learning.... Read this book, rejoice in its clarity, and give it to all the teachers and parents and school administrators and pediatricians and politicians you can buttonhole. Weâ€”as a country, as parents, and as educational and medical practitioners of all kindsâ€”can fix this problem, just as soon as we acknowledge its existence. (Vision Development & Rehabilitation) [W]e are [big fans] of Wendy Beth Rosen's new book.... It's almost as if everything we've ever wanted a non-optometrist to write about vision and learning is encapsulated here.... [Y]ou must read this book cover to cover.... I can't imagine a more authoritative looking book, with such well-researched content, that you could possibly give anyone to enlighten them about or provide reinforcement about what you do. (The VisionHelp Blog) Please consider reading [*The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning*] or pass it on to someone if you suspect there is a vision and learning related struggle. This book is an easy read and filled with a bunch of great information! (Dynamic Center for Vision Therapy) Wendy Rosen's book, *The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning*, is more than a book. It's part of a relentless quest to educate and ultimately open eyes to an issue with far-reaching societal

implications. Wendy Rosen has the fire. (The Vision Therapy Center) Wendy Beth Rosen has brought together an impressive amount of information pointing to the importance of early comprehensive visual testing and therapy that will impact the lives of so many children, families, the educational system, and even the national economy. This is a must read for parents, educators, health professionals, lawmakers and anyone committed to a better future through our children. (Carla Hannaford, PhD, biologist, author, and international consultant) Vision is so much more than seeing, as we learn in this highly informative and provocative book. In understanding the role of vision in the reading process, the whole child must be taken into consideration, and developmentally appropriate practice must guide it. Reading is more than decoding words. This book is a must-read for all early childhood educators. (Marcy Guddemi, PhD, executive director, Gesell Institute of Child Development, New Haven, CT) This is a book that should be read by every school psychologist, clinician, pediatrician, and all other professionals working with children in a diagnostic or therapeutic capacity. You will learn, as I did, that there is much more to vision than meets the eye, and that we must understand far more than visual acuity if we are to understand how children are functioning. Until these conditions are recognized and addressed, we will continue to err in the labeling and treatment of many childhood problems. This book will open your eyes to your eyes, and to those of your children. (Maurice J. Elias, PhD, professor of clinical psychology, Rutgers University, author of *“The Other Side of the Report Card: Assessing Students’ Social, Emotional, and Character Development”*) Wendy Beth Rosen has written a fascinating and important book on a topic too often overlooked: the connection between vision and learning. I certainly didn’t know that there is a difference between vision and eyesight, that there’s more to vision than 20/20, or that millions of children struggle in school due to undiagnosed vision problems. Parents and teachers alike need to read this eye-opening book! (Rae Pica, author, *“What If Everybody Understood Child Development?”*) When Wendy Rosen couldn’t figure out why her bright, eager-to-learn daughter was struggling in elementary school, she set out to find answers. And find them she did: in a little-diagnosed and little-understood vision-related learning problem that affects an untold number of other children as well. In *The Hidden Link Between Vision and Learning*, Rosen brings her parental love and determination, as well as her teacher knowledge and experience, to the lucky ones who will benefit from her research, her stories, and her advice. (Sara Bennett, co-author, *“The Case Against Homework”*, founder, Stop Homework.) This book is a terrific introduction to children’s vision. It considers vision and visual problems much more fully than is customary, and in a way that parents and educators can easily understand. Moreover, it discusses vision as it occurs in the whole child--a living, breathing, thinking, feeling child who is coping with the real world.

As such, the book makes a valuable contribution to the child development literature. (William Crain, Professor of Psychology, The City College of New York, and author of Theories of Development: Concepts and Applications) Written by an education consultant, this marvelous book offers unique insights on why the association between vision and learning has remained hidden. More than a commentary on a system that has failed our children, Ms. Rosen's diligent research and accessible prose will benefit countless numbers of parents and educators. (Leonard J. Press, O.D., FAAO, FCOVD, optometric director, The Vision & Learning Center)

Wendy Beth Rosen is an education consultant specializing in vision-related learning problems, metacognition, and environmental education. A certified early childhood and elementary teacher with extensive classroom experience, she has also taught in experiential educational settings as a nature specialist, a marine field instructor, and an educational farmer.

Okay, I'll admit it. I am a friend of the author; however, I didn't have to review her book, and I certainly didn't have to give it 5 stars. Wendy Beth Rosen writes with clarity, humor, and most importantly--from the heart. I remember when her daughter Sarah was struggling in elementary school, doing poorly despite being a well-motivated, hard working student. Sarah was going through testing at school, becoming classified as a special education student. I don't remember which friend or acquaintance recommended that Sarah be tested by a Visual Optometrist. Wendy had never heard of it, but she gave it a try and it worked. The future author was astonished. She had worked in schools for much of her life--she is a certified early childhood and elementary teacher with extensive classroom experience, but was astonished that she had never before known there was anything called Vision Therapy, or a specialty of Optometry called Behavioral Optometrists. Wendy researched it and took Sarah for an evaluation, diagnosis, and then therapy. After a few sessions, Sarah casually commented that the letters in her book weren't jumping around anymore, Wendy was astonished to learn that Sarah saw words that way and Sarah was astounded to learn that other people didn't! Wendy saw it completely turn around her daughter's life, turning her into a successful student with no need for any type of classification or special education services. Wendy was thrilled, amazed, and so excited that she wanted to share this information with educators and parents. She wanted to advocate for children to be tested at school along with their visual acuity tests. Wendy became an education consultant specializing in vision-related learning problems, hoping that kids will stop slipping through the cracks, struggling to read and being fully or partially misdiagnosed when part if not all of their disability is a visual disorder that is correctable with vision

therapy. The book is beautifully written and is excellent material for laypeople as well as professionals. I can't recommend it highly enough--it's an eye opener in so many ways!

Great book, especially if your child has been diagnosed with ADHD or dyslexia as my son had. After I learned of vision therapy and optometrists that specialized in this field, I had him evaluated. Come to find out he was seeing double! He had convergence insufficiency. He has received 6 months of vision therapy and now no longer sees double, he no longer takes medication and is doing great in school!

Wonderful book, and sorely needed. It does a great job of "connecting the dots" between vision and learning. In a clear and very readable style, this book will give parents, educators, and others a means of discerning whether a child may be suffering from a visually related learning problem and what to do about it.

Great book

This book has a lot going on. I expected it to be solely about struggling students whose underlying problem is vision problems. It is about that, for sure. Ms. Rosen goes in depth on the various vision problems that can affect their ability to read, etc and explains that these problems aren't detected with the eye chart that measures ability to see from a distance. She explains that visual therapy can help these kids get on track and thrive. While I'm sure she'd certainly be very happy if a parent, teacher, or optometrist would learn and apply the information to helping individual students, she also is interested in achieving much more. She wants to trigger a movement to ensure that all children are tested for these vision problems and are provided with treatment in a timely manner. She describes pockets where this kind of coverage is already happening but makes the case for it being universal for the good of society. The incidence of vision problems among the prison population is alarming. A thought provoking book that I will be sharing with others. If you know someone who has vision problems that get in the way of their reaching their potential, or actually anyone who is struggling with schoolwork, I'd recommend that you check this book out.

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