

Screening Skills: Near Vision

Purpose: To screen for ability to focus on near objects. This has also been referred to as “farsightedness”.	
Equipment: Sloan near vision chart (or other acceptable chart such as LEA, HOTV, Sloan Numbers) and occluder	
Who is Screened: Optional tier 2 test may be performed on student grade 1 and older upon referral/concern from teacher, parent or nurse. <u>Do NOT screen near vision for pre-school or kindergarten students.</u>	
Skill Steps	Notes
Screening Set Up	
Ensure adequate lighting	
Chair for student	
Appropriate chart for student’s developmental level	
Procedure	
Hold the card at eye level. Make sure that the room is well lit, and that it is free from shadows.	Some near vision cards include a measuring cord. Do not isolate individual optotypes. Only point briefly to optotypes.
If a child is already wearing glasses or contact lenses, attempt to determine the reason for the correction. If the glasses are for reading, test the child with and without glasses in order to obtain a baseline. If the glasses are to correct for a distance vision problem, testing the child with his/her glasses on will produce a better result.	
Measure the exact distance from the acuity card to where the student will be positioned. Hold chart the distance recommended by the manufacturer.	
Don’t allow the child to lean the torso forward or tilt the head forward.	
Near screening can either be done with each eye separately (monocular) or both eyes together (binocular). Each LEA should determine which method they will use. Screening both binocular and monocular is unnecessary.	
Screen near vision at critical line appropriate for age. If the student cannot pass the critical line move up on the chart to determine what line they can read.	
Pass Criteria for Near Vision Screening Card	
The ability to identify the majority of optotypes on the 20/30 (or 20/32) line is a PASS . Rescreening is not required for near vision.	Since this test is done on students in first grade and above, only the 20/30 or 20/32 critical line is used
Referral Criteria	
Recommended that Students Receive an Evaluation by an Eye Care Professional	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Failure in one eye or both constitutes a referral. 	

Helpful Tips:

- Explain the process to the student
- Make sure student does not lean forward
- Follow manufacturer’s instructions