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Inland Eye Specialists

Commonly Asked Questions About Your Child's Eye Exam

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Why is it important for a child to have an eye exam?

The visual part of the brain develops in the first 9 years of life. It is important to have normal eye exams during this important period of life for the brain to develop properly.

How long will the visit take?

The first visit will take about 1 to 1 & ½ hours. Eye drops are usually give to dilate the pupils. The drops that ½ hour to work properly, and are needed to properly examine children's eyes.

What should I bring to the eye doctor's office?

If your baby drinks from a bottle, please bring one with you and don not feed the baby before you come to the visit. The doctor may ask you to feed your baby from the bottle during the examination. Also, bring sunglasses or a cap for after the examination.

How long will it take for the pupils to go back to normal size?

The pupils may stay dilated for several hours and sometimes even until the next morning. They will eventually return to normal. Your child may wear sunglasses or a cap if the sunlight bothers his or her eyes. Your child may return to school after the eye exam. You may want to mention to the teacher that the vision will be blurred for a few hours after the visit.

How does the doctor know what my baby's vision is?

If a child does not yet speak or read, the doctor will check to see if each eye can follow a moving object, and if the eyes are properly aligned.

How does the doctor know what eyeglass prescription to give?

After the pupils are dilated, the doctor uses an instrument called a retinoscope to determine the EXACT prescription your child might need.