

The Amblyopia Kids network: defeating Lazy Eye and connecting Amblyopia Kids worldwide

Amblyopia (Lazy Eye) affects children's vision and causes blindness. Amblyopia Kids website is dedicated to promoting awareness and sharing the stories of children who are battling Amblyopia.

Isabelle was an ordinary preschool student, or so everyone thought. A school vision screening conducted by the New Jersey Commission for the Blind unveiled a little secret about Isabelle. A secret that had gone undetected by her parents, pediatrician, and her teachers. Isabelle was using only her right eye to see. Her left eye, affected by a condition called Amblyopia (Lazy Eye) was being suppressed by her brain and neglected. By the time the condition was detected her vision in that eye was measuring well into the range for Legally Blind. And nobody knew.

Her mother, MaryTara Wurmser of Brick, New Jersey turned to the internet to research her daughter's eye condition, Amblyopia and came up with just a handful of websites and resources dedicated to Amblyopia. If left untreated my daughter would ultimately lose her functional vision in one eye. I'd never heard of Amblyopia before, but it is really quite common. It is estimated that 2-5% of the population has Amblyopia - that is more than 1 in 50 children and 1 in 20 preschool age children have this neurological condition.

Wurmser founded the Amblyopia Kids blog and website at Amblyopiakids.com. The site is dedicated to Amblyopia awareness and promoting the importance of vision screening in children. Treatment for Amblyopia includes the use of an eye patch, and/or the use of atropine drops in order to occlude the good eye and force the brain to use the suppressed amblyopic eye. It is a lot of work for children with Amblyopia and also for the parents too. I wanted to get my daughter's story out there and chronicle her journey back to seeing clearly with both eyes.

The website welcomes contribution from both parents and professionals. Examples include: photos, success stories and all the ups and downs in between. Wurmser, a product guru and established Kids and Family reviewer on the Epinions.com website has dedicated a portion of the Amblyopia Kids website to reviewing products that are helpful and relevant to raising a child with Amblyopia. She has also connected with manufacturers of Eye Patches for her daughter to test. A good patch is one that fits your child well, is comfortable to wear, and is fully occlusive with no opportunities for peeking.

For more information visit: <http://www.amblyopiakids.com> email amblyopiakids@gmail.com or follow AmblyopiaKids on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/amblyopiakids>

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