

I wasn't sure what to expect when our regular eye doctor referred us to Jury, Farrar & Associates for vision therapy. But the results were life changing. It was worth every penny, every mile driven, and every minute spent working on activities at home. My eldest son had always had what we thought of as a lazy eye, and he occasionally complained about seeing double. But he was an excellent reader and didn't have any trouble in school, and the doctor didn't think it was severe enough to recommend surgery. So we put him in glasses and didn't think much else about it. But because of his wandering eye, I had taken him for annual vision exams every year of his life. Then my younger son came along, and he really struggled in school. As an avid reader and a teacher myself, I had spent hours reading to my boys since they were babies, but my youngest son hated to read. And after three years of diligent tutoring, he could barely read three letter words. He cried every time he had to read or write. His penmanship was deplorable. No one but me could decipher it, and he had flunked every single spelling test he'd ever taken, even though he could recite every phonics rule and knew every sound a letter could make. I knew he was smart, but I couldn't figure out why he had so much trouble in school. It was baffling. I had also taken him for regular vision exams, and they commented that his tracking was a little delayed but that they didn't see any real issues. Finally after three years of exams, the regular eye doctor said he might benefit from vision therapy. Desperate, we jumped on it. The vision testing was so much more thorough than a regular vision exam, and it was obvious that he had a real issue, a vision issue. And I saw that his vision issues were not only affecting his school work, but they explained why he had never learned to ride a bike, had bad balance, crashed into furniture and was frustrated a lot of the time. So we signed up for vision therapy. He hated it at first, even with all the reward charts and prizes. He tried every way he could to cheat the system, and he had a horrible attitude about doing it. But we persevered, and after some time, I started seeing changes. Big changes! When he finally made an A on a spelling test, I cried. When he wanted to go to the library and check out books that weren't just comic books, I celebrated. When he finally graduated and could read on his grade level, it was amazing! So I asked them to test his big brother. We found out that his eye issue wasn't really a lazy eye, and that there was something that could be done about it. So we brought him to therapy too. And my eldest has learned how to control his eyes to the point that he doesn't see double anymore and his glasses prescription has been reduced. I would highly recommend that any parent whose child is struggling give vision therapy a try. It reaps a lifetime of results.

*Margie Rice*