

VISION SCREENING TOOLS FOR CHILDREN – COMPARISON CHART

	Chart-based screening	Instrument-based screening
Recommended for use on ages 3-5	✓	✓
Recommended for use on ages 6 and older	✓	
Can detect amblyopia risk factors	✓	✓
Can detect anisometropia (unequal refractive error)	✓	✓
Can detect significant refractive errors	✓	✓
Can detect misalignment of the eyes (strabismus)	✓	✓
Can detect the presence of media opacities (cataract)	✓	✓
Requires a child’s attentiveness and responses	✓	
Provides a visual acuity result	✓	
Provides printout of refraction for eye glasses*		✓
Provides diagnostic results*		✓
Cost Range	\$14-\$58 per chart	\$4,000-\$8,000 per tool

*Screeners should **not** provide the detailed printout/diagnostic results from the instrument based screening tools; instead, children who do not pass the screening must be referred to an eye care professional for diagnosis and treatment.

Vision screening – using recommended tools, protocols, and procedures – is a cost-effective method to identify those children who should continue on for a **follow-up comprehensive eye examination with an eye doctor** for diagnosis and treatment of vision disorders.

The following tools are approved by Prevent Blindness for use during vision screening:

Preschool-age Vision Screening

- 5 ft. VIP Visual Acuity Chart (3-5 years) (best practice)
- Suresight Vision Screener (best practice)
- PlusOptix (acceptable)
- SPOT (acceptable)

School-age Vision Screening

- Snellen/Sloan (> 6years)

