**Why it is important to have your child's eyes tested**

Undetected vision problems can be a serious barrier to learning. Poorly developed vision skills make learning difficult and stressful often resulting in reading avoidance, difficulty with comprehension, short attention spans and misbehavior in the classroom.

Although schools screen students with the basic Snelling test for 20/20 vision at a distance, this typically detects only 5% of all vision problems. Because vision may change frequently during the schools years, a child should receive an eye examination at least once every two years or more frequently if specific problems exist. Detecting vision problems early can make a difference in future success in school, work and life.

Florida Statute requires vision screening at a minimum to students in grades K, 1, 3 and 6 and students entering Florida schools for the first time in grades K through 5. In Orange County, the Health Department coordinates the vision screenings in our schools by providing dates and training for designated school personnel.

"Now that I can see, I can dream!"