

Demonstrations

Double Demo: There are many ways to perform this demonstration.

All double vision demonstrations have a dramatic impact on parents or teachers when it unearths a problem which was never suspected.

Hand method: This is simple and portable. No equipment is required. The alignment of the hands is so that they are directly in front of the person to whom you are testing, with the observer (to whom you are demonstrating) watching on the opposite side of your hands. Place both hands together palm to palm. Align both hands so they are perceived as one by the person being tested.

Say, “Do you ever notice, especially late in the school day, or if you’re tired, that the letters on the page seem to do this...?”

Slide one hand slowly to one side to give the appearance of a double image. You may also ask, “If you’re ever really tired, do you ever see the two images slide completely apart, like this”
Slide your two hands slowly apart and have them separate by a few inches



For teachers, tutors or others working with children, say, **“This is an excellent and simple way to ask a child whether he or she is seeing double. Many children don’t know what you mean when you ask if they are seeing double and will answer no, but if you use this demonstration, they will instantly know what you’re talking about.”**

You can also simulate a “shimmering” effect where the child is able to hold the images single, but with a tremendous effort. Simply gently wiggle one hand a quarter inch or so from side to side (4 or 5 cycles per second is enough).

2-sided double vision display card: This card is printed with the single image on one side of the page, and you flip it over to show the double image as you engage in the following conversation.

This is a
demonstration of
what it is like to
see print the way
someone with
double vision
would see it.

Start by showing the single image side, without revealing the double vision side, to the patient or parent, educator or professional. Say, **“This is how a page should look as you’re reading it.”**

Then flip the card over and reveal the double image. Say, **“Do you ever notice, especially late in the school day, or if you’re very tired, that the letters on the page seem to look like this...?”**

If a child being tested indicates, yes, they do see double that way, turn the demonstration card or your hands directly to the parent and say, **“Can you imagine how difficult it must be for Pt. Name to read when the letters look like this? No wonder he’s having so many problems.”**