



## Lesson ideas

Below you will find a selection of eye health-themed, curriculum-linked lesson ideas written for primary and middle years students.

### Broad learning outcomes

Using this curriculum material will assist students in achieving the following broad learning outcomes:

- Students will explore the importance of eye health and maintaining good vision.
- Students will investigate historical and contemporary technologies relating to eye health.

### English

- Students to use the '**Eye Guy**' activity sheet to record as many words with the long 'i' sound as they can think of. Sort the words into categories (e.g. 'igh' 'i\_e' or 'y').
- Students to make the model of '**Eye Guy**' (see '*The Arts*' lessons) and then write a personal profile about him.
- Students to read the information about eye health in 'Facts for Students' (in the '*Themed Curriculum Support*' section of the FTfs website), then complete the '**Cornea Curling Crossword**' activity sheet.
- Students to test their word search skills by completing the '**Eye Twisting Find-a-Word**' activity sheet.
- Students to make an eye test chart (as used in optometrists' offices) that contains a hidden message about eye health.
- Students to read the information about eye health in 'Facts for Students' (in the '*Themed Curriculum Support*' section of the FTfs website), then complete the '**Read It, Answer It**' activity sheet.
- Students to see how many words they can make using the letters on the '**Eye Chart – Word Making**' activity sheet.

### History

- Students to explore the history of technologies designed to help with vision problems. Select an item (e.g. glasses) and research how it has changed over time.



## Mathematics

- Students to work in small groups to measure the distance that they can place an object and still identify what it is. (*Students may have to perform this task 'backwards', by beginning a long distance away from the other half of their group with a mystery object, and moving closer until the group is able to correctly identify it.*) Record the information and present it to the rest of the class.
- Students to test their coordinate knowledge by completing the '**Coordinates Puzzle**' activity sheet.

## Science / Technology

- Students to discuss the eye. Sight is one of the five senses. What are the others? Design some experiments to explore the world around us using just one of the senses. Think about light, sound and vibrations.
- Students to work with a partner to observe how the pupil automatically gets larger or smaller when the light is changed. Turn the classroom lights off for ten seconds, then turn them back on.
- Invite an optometrist to come and speak to the class about the anatomy of the eye.
- Students to work in small groups to find out about one part of the eye anatomy. Share information from each group with the class, perhaps add information to a large eye with sticky notes.

Find out:

- Where the part is located.
- What function/s it performs.
- Its importance to overall vision.
- Consequences of this part being damaged.
- Students to have some fun with the optical illusions on the '**Optical Illusions**' activity sheet. Discuss what is happening in each one and why the eye might have been tricked.
- Students to research medical inventions, treatments or technologies related to the eyes or eye health.

## Geography

- Australia has many aid organisations that work with other countries to improve eye health. Select one organisation and research its work in another country.



## The Arts

- Students to take close up photographs of each other's eyes (*do not use flash photography*) and use computer software to make a photo story, collage or mural.
- Students to make the 3D model of Eye Guy using the '**Eye Guy Model**' activity sheet.
- Students to use recycled materials to make a pair of interesting glasses.

## Health and Physical Education

- Students to investigate pieces of sporting equipment that have been designed to protect the eyes of athletes. Discuss each design, thinking about pros and cons, and then design a new piece of protective gear for a different sport.
- Invite an optometrist to come and speak to the class about eye health and what students can do to protect their vision now and for the future.
- Students to work in groups of three and try catching balls with both eyes open and then one eye covered with an eye patch. Ask students to make predictions and then record their scores.
- Students to read through the information on the 'Eye Problems' sheet, then select one to research further. This sheet can be found in 'Extra Resources' in the 'Themed Curriculum Support' section of the FTfs website.
- Invite a first aid instructor to come and visit the class. Ask them to specifically focus on prevention and treatment of eye injuries. (*There is information about eye safety on the 'Eye Safety' sheet in 'Extra Resources' in the 'Themed Curriculum Support' section of the FTfs website.*)