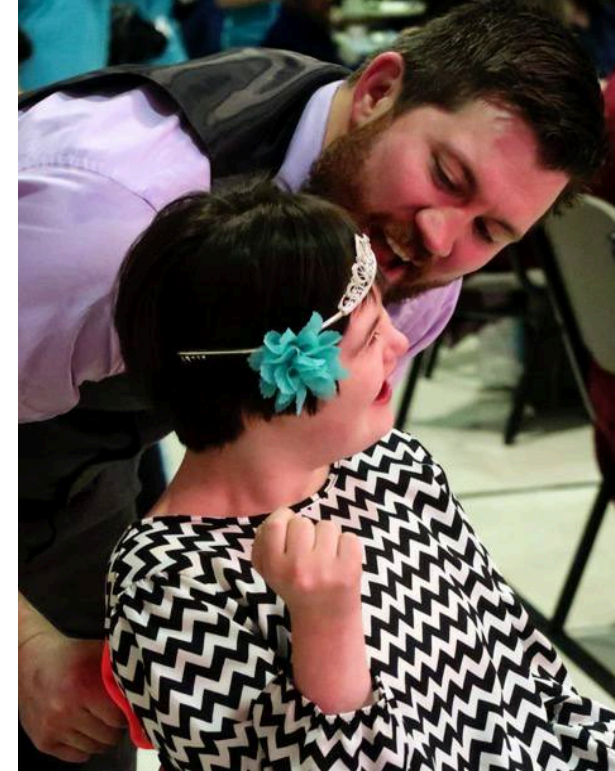
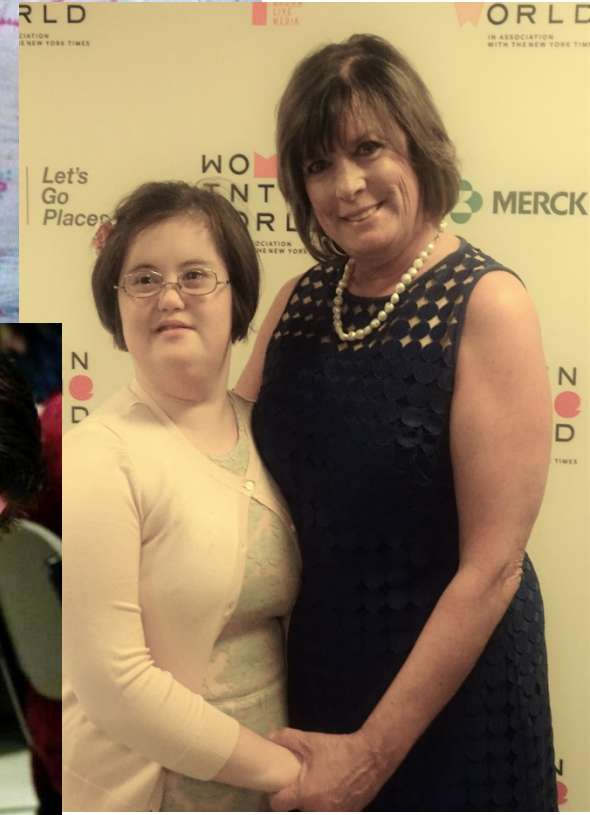
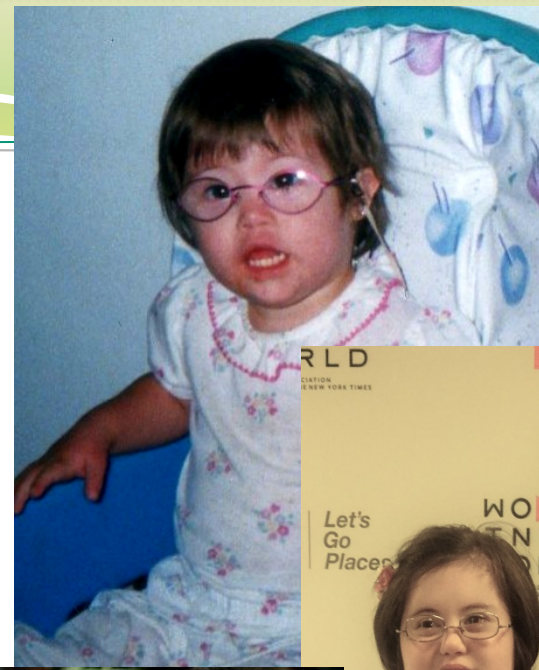


RED FLAGS IN VISION AND LEARNING.....



Maria Dellapina
Founder/ Optician
Specs4us

Why am I doing this.....



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ❖ When and Why should I get my Child's eyes examined ?
- ❖ What Doctor is best for my child ?
- ❖ How can they test eyes if the individual can not speak?
- ❖ Vision Therapy, what's that?
- ❖ What are some Red Flags concerning Vision and learning?
- ❖ Eyewear choices, How do I choose? Why do they slip off their noses?
- ❖ Your Questions Answered.....

Did You Know.....

Although babies can see right after birth, they don't see as well as adults. Infant vision is around 20/1500, as compared to adult normal vision of 20/20

- At First glance Doctor will look for :
- Infections
- Structural problems with the eyes
- Cataracts
- Crossing
- Weak accommodation

When to Worry About Your Baby's Vision:

If your baby never seems to fixate on objects about a foot away -- especially your face -- in the first weeks or months, tell your pediatrician. At three to four months, if your baby still looks "cross-eyed" (the left and right eyes seem to be looking in different directions), this could be a sign of a visual or eye muscle problem and should be evaluated at your next check-up.



Eye disease is reported in more than half of the individuals with “Special Needs”. It is noted that 87% of individuals with Down syndrome need visual correction by preschool.

The five most common Vision Problems are:

1. Refractive error
2. Accommodations
3. Astigmatism
4. Tear Duct Abnormalities
5. Strabismus or Squinting



What Doctor is best for My Child?

- **Ophthalmologists** –These doctors have medical degrees and many have special training for areas caring for children, specific part of the eye, or a specific disease.
- **Optometrists** –They have earned a professional degree in optometry. Qualified in the diagnosis and treatment of eye problems, such as nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism .
MANY ARE TRAINED IN:
Behavioral and developmental vision care
Vision therapy
Visual rehabilitation
- **Orthoptists**-Trained to provide diagnosis and non-surgical treatment of vision disorders and problems related to eye movement and alignment.
Orthoptics, which literally means "straightening of the eyes", dates back to the 1850s

Great Information is Available



College of Optometrists in
Vision Development
www.COVD.ORG



American Association for Pediatric
Ophthalmology and Strabismus
www.aapos.org

NORA

Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association

The Neuro-Optometric
Rehabilitation Association,
International

www.nora.cc



American Academy of
Ophthalmology
www.geteyesmart.org

Misleading comments

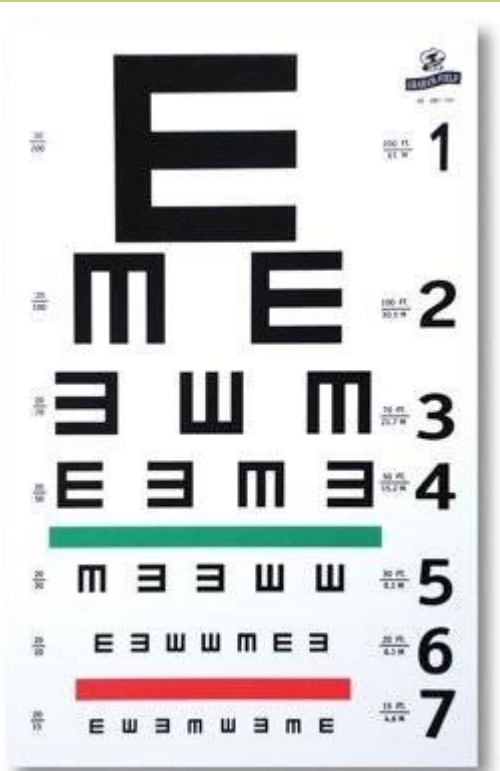
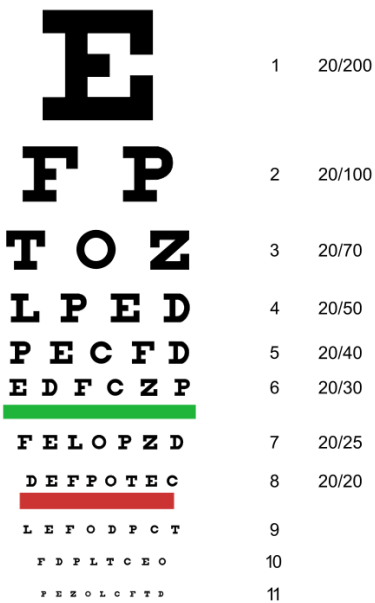
I can write out an RX but I doubt
he/she will wear them.....

They only need them for school.....

They only need them for reading.....

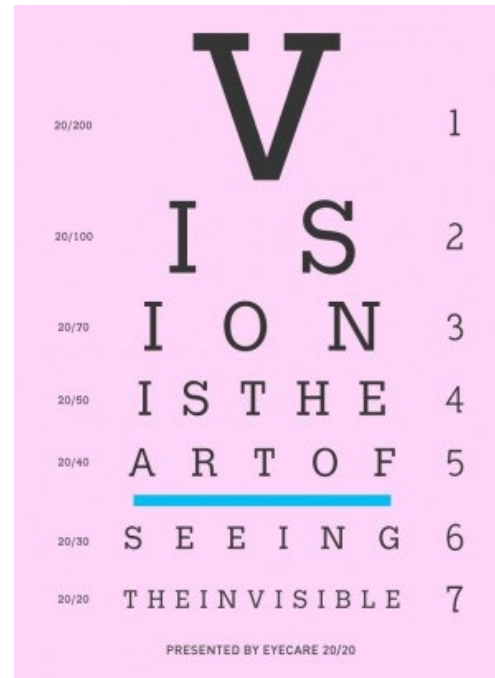
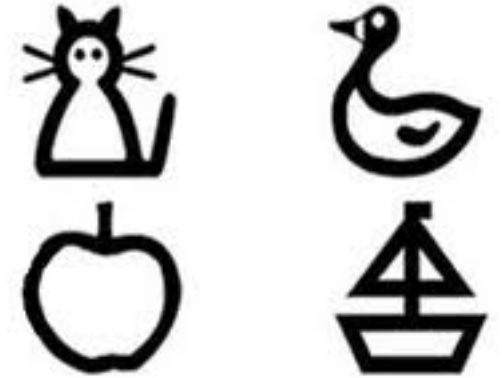
They will grow into their glasses....

We can try this again in 3 months.....



Not just one type of Eye chart

The tumbling E chart is often used to test the visual acuity of young children and others who can't read letters aloud.



Types of Learning-Related Vision Problems

There are three main classifications that are specific learning-related vision problem

- **Eye health and refractive problems**

examples are Refractive Errors include nearsightedness, farsightedness and astigmatism

- **Functional vision problems**

Accommodation, Convergence insufficiency
the neurological control of these functions

- **Perceptual vision problems.**

Interferes with all aspects of balance and coordination

How Vision Affects Learning

Most school screenings check for visual acuity alone and do not screen for visual skills including tracking, focusing, eye teaming or perceptual skills

Double vision often appears or gets worse as the day goes on. Many people block the vision in one eye to avoid seeing double.



There once was a little girl who could not read well. She complained that the print was blurry and moving. She could not keep her place on the page. She went to her optometrist to get help. Her optometrist recommended vision therapy and told her that there was a solution to her reading problems. The girl began vision therapy and saw drastic improvements in her reading, writing, and most of all how she saw the world. The vision therapy made a huge difference in her life!

Vision Perception

Visual Perception refers to the brain's ability to make sense of what the eyes see. This is not the same as visual acuity, which refers to how clearly a person sees (for example "20/20 vision"). A person can have 20/20 vision and still have problems with visual perceptual processing

You can tell there are problems with visual perception if the child:

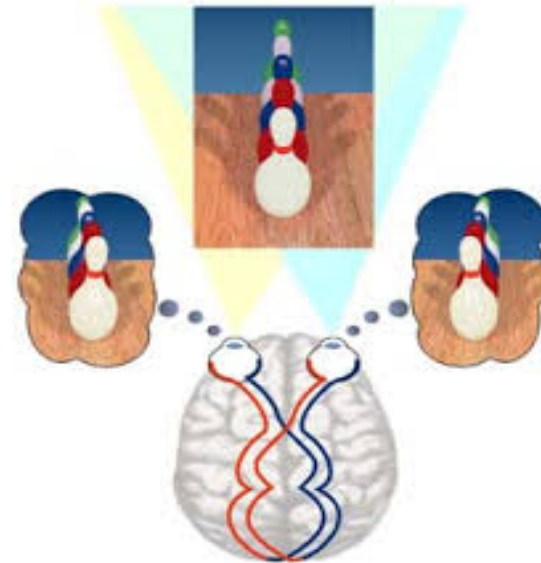
- Has trouble completing puzzles or dot to dots.
- Has difficulty planning actions in relation to objects around him/her.
- Reverses numbers or letters when writing.
- Looses place on a page when reading or writing.
- Forgets where to start reading
- And you may find that they may avoid or refuse to participate in activities that require visual perceptual skills

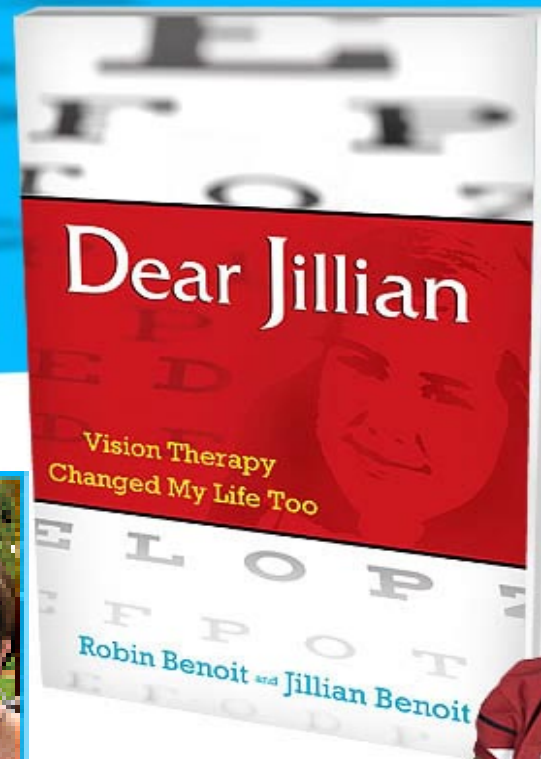
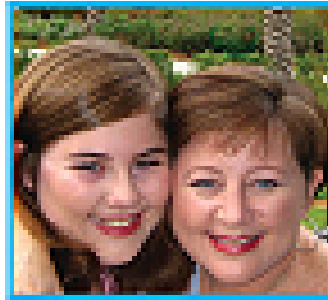
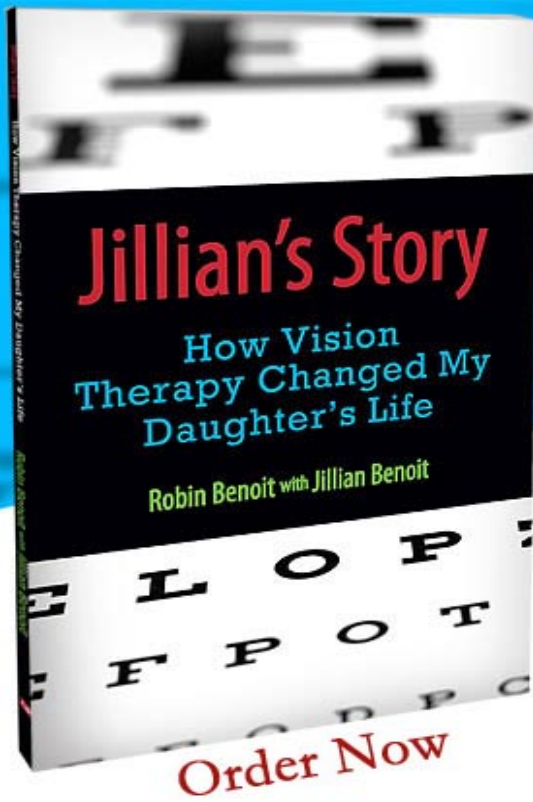
Vision Therapy

- According to Visionandlearning.org, a behavioral-optometry Web site, **Vision Therapy** can be used to treat reading problems, learning problems, spelling problems, attention problems, hyperactivity, coordination problems; it can also treat a child who experiences “trouble in sports,” or who “frustrates easily”.



F	Y	Y	H	N	R	D
R	L	J	C	I	N	U
A	A	W	A	A	H	R
N	T	K	L	P	N	E
C	I	L	F	S	A	P
E	O	G	O	T	P	N
H	P	O	L	A	N	D





Jillian Benoit and her mother, **Robin Benoit**, were so amazed by Jillian's life-changing success with vision therapy that they embarked on a goal of spreading the word about it to others

Larry Fitzgerald
Arizona Cardinals, All
Pro Wide Receiver

RED Flags in Vision and learning Disabilities

Vision is a fundamental factor in the learning process. The three interrelated areas of visual function are:

- Total Vision including eye health, visual acuity and refractive status;
- Visual efficiency including accommodation (focusing), binocular vision (eye teaming) and eye movements;
- Visual information processing including special awareness, and integration with other Senses.

Vision is learned; therefore vision is trainable. If a child does not possess the necessary visual skills, he can be taught to possess them through the proper Vision Therapy techniques.

RED Flags in Vision and learning Disabilities

Educators, counselors or school staff see your children as they learn. When they read, when they do written work, or when they look at chalkboards or screens, certain behaviors may (or should)stand out as red flags to them. Talk to them.

Uncorrected vision problems can lead to faulty assumptions about learning ability, and children can be falsely labeled as lazy, dyslexic, slow learners, smart in everything but school, behavioral problems, or as having attention deficit disorder or other learning disabilities.

Signs to watch for

- Does the student...
- Complain of blurred vision, headaches, or sore eyes?
- Avoid reading and work that requires seeing things up close?
- Take a long time to complete homework or up-close work?
- Cover one eye, hold a book at an extreme angle, or squint while reading?
- Turn his or her head while reading or follow text with a finger?
- Complain that words are blurred or moving on the page?

Vision problems in children can often lead to:

- Misdiagnosed Learning Disabilities
- Poor Self-Esteem
- Fatigue, Frustration, and Irritability
- Day Dreaming
- Short Attention Span



Red Flags –in Pre-school (ages 3 and 5 years)

- Red Flags –in Pre-school (ages 3 and 5 years)
- Toe walking
- Cannot jump easily or balance on one leg for a few seconds
- Can't ride a tricycle
- Transfers objects between hands instead of crossing body
- Poor balance, clumsy and/or not coordinated
- Difficulty with rhythm and timing
- Turns head to view targets at extreme angles
- Rubs eyes and blinks excessively
- Holds crayon in a fist-like grip
- Cannot draw a circle
- Does not have a preferred hand by age 4



Red Flags/Warning Signs for Children 9+ to Adults

- Reading – Slow; avoids it; relies on sight words; guesses and makes errors
- Spelling – Poor spelling, poor memory after spelling test, mixes up letters in words
- Writing – Avoids it; written sentences are short and poorly organized or ordered
- Handwriting – Effortful, messy, awkward grip, presses too hard on paper with pencil
- Focus – Trouble concentrating; wears out before task is done; loses place on a page
- Self-esteem – Increasing frustration and poor self-esteem

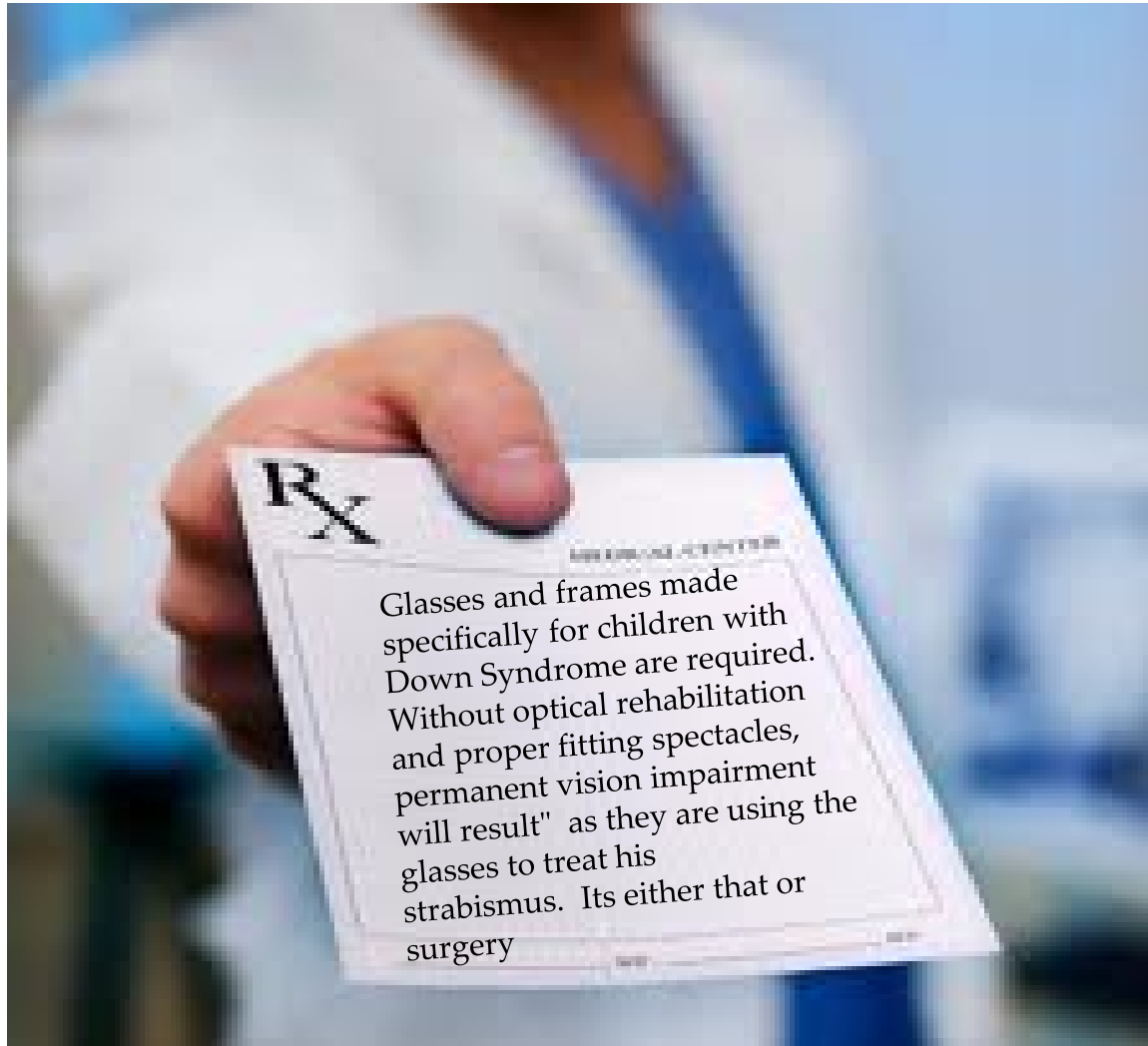
Glasses.....Yeah Right?????



There are reasons why a child might not wear their glasses.....

- Balance and comfort are Key Issues
- Refraction error
- Routine
- Keep experience positive

We need to educate the Doctors and Opticians
A parent sent in... "his doctor wrote on the Rx"



Glasses can
make a
difference

There is a difference.....

Choosing the correct eyewear can make a difference.

Look at bridge placement and temple length

Glasses should look like an accessory not a necessity!



Look at Bridge and temple placement

Fit and size does matter



Too small



Too big



Just Right

Specs 4Us

See Something New



Look at the difference
Erin's World Frames can make!
Visit us at www.specs4us.com



...ANY QUESTIONS ???

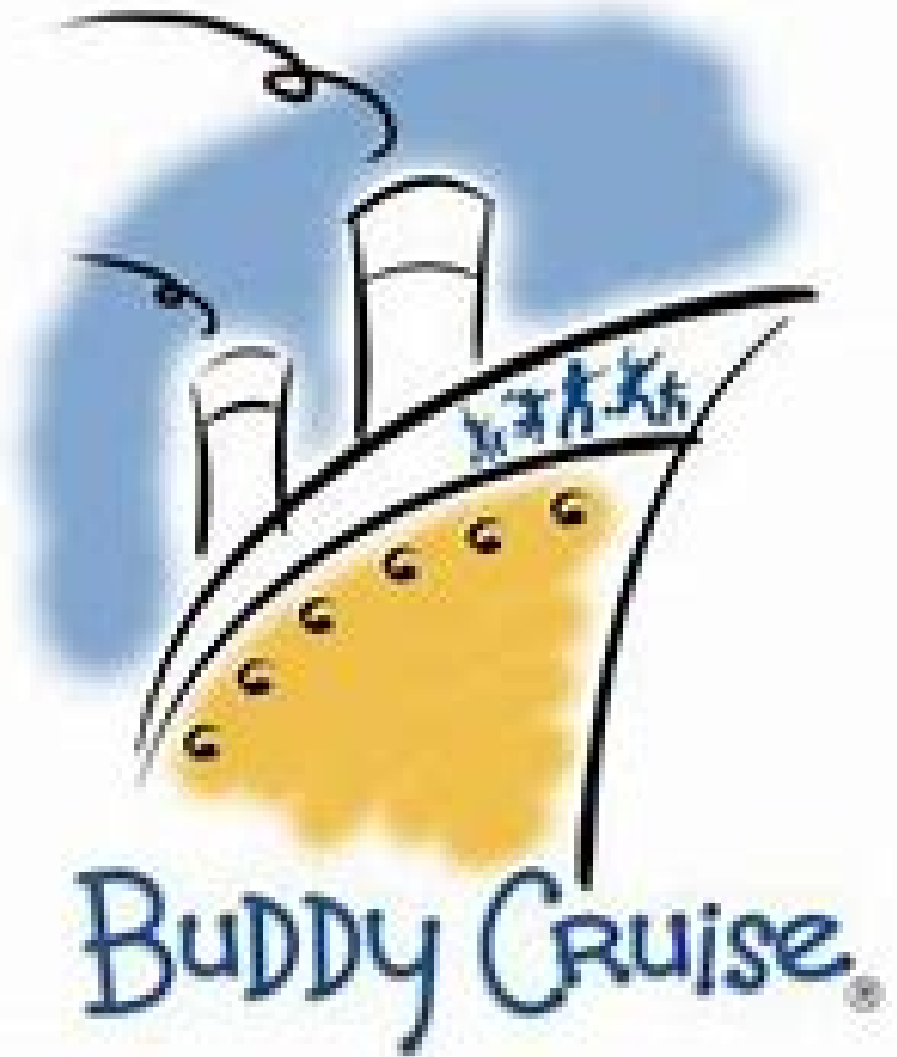


Before (above)
After (below)

"It's not
what the vision is,
it's what the vision
does."

-Peter Senge





Thank you

I can be reached at info@specs4us.com or call
800-586-1885