Another AVC success story!

My 10-year-old daughter, Cadee, was diagnosed with apraxia, a neurological speech disorder resulting in difficulty in programming the timing, coordination, and articulatory adjustments necessary for normal speech production.

Cadee's large motor coordination and reading have always been a struggle, which we assumed was due to the apraxia.

Last winter, Cadee's reading enrichment teacher suggested I take her to a developmental optometrist.

A friend of mine told me about Dr. Rick Peterson, who performed several tests on Cadee and told us her eyes were not working together. This suppression of binocular vision affected focusing, following moving objects, and her depth perception, among other things.

Dr. Rick prescribed Vision Therapy to reprogram her brain to get her eyes to work together correctly. He told us to work on it every day to strengthen her eye muscles. Cadee and I smiled and told Dr. Rick that we know all about "daily routines" because Cadee has apraxia.

Dr. Rick knew about apraxia! He asked Cadee if she could hit a baseball and she said she's been on a team for 5 years because it's fun, but cannot hit the ball, nor can she could ride a bike.

When Cadee reads, her face is in the book using her finger or a bookmark so she doesn't lose her place, and Dr. Rick said she is using one eye at a time. This made so much sense to me!

I agreed to try Vision Therapy. I couldn't afford not to! My greatest priority to my children is to get them to reach their highest potential!

We bought the computer Home Therapy Program and got started. During the first week Cadee was frustrated, tired, and in tears, but soon it became easier and even fun! She could see her results on the computer

and felt a sense of accomplishment. She looked forward to her Vision Therapy and tried to score better than the day before.

After a month of therapy at home and office visits with Cheryl, Cadee got on her bike and took off! She could finally ride!

Two days later, she smacked the ball to left field at baseball practice! The coach and I were in shock!

Now, when she reads, (with prescription glasses for her astigmatism, thanks to Dr. Rick), she holds the book out and doesn't use her finger or a bookmark! Cadee can also follow the direction of a moving pencil in front of her with both eyes.

Cadee gets A's and B's in school and has improved her P.E. grade.

We are so grateful to Dr. Rick and his wonderful staff!
Thank you,

Terri Massie



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