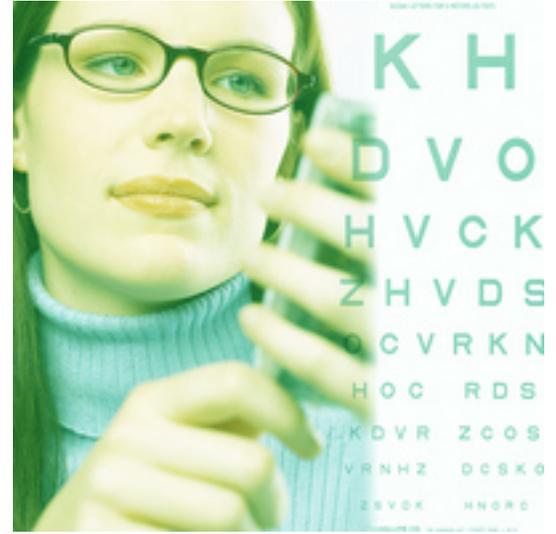# Why Do Some People Need Glasses?

Jack is nearsighted. He has no problem reading his book. He can see things that are near his eyes. He has trouble seeing things far away. He has trouble reading from the board at school. Words on the board look blurry.

Jack's father is farsighted. He can see the street signs far away. He has trouble seeing the words on the newspaper right in front of him. Both Jack and his dad use eyeglasses to help them see well.

When you look at something, the light coming into your eye reflects or bounces off the image in front of the eye. As light comes into the eye, it is bent. The light is focused on the back of the eye, called the retina. The retina works sort of like a movie screen. The image is projected onto the screen. In Jack's eyes, the image falls short of the retina. He needs glasses with special lenses that will focus the light on the correct spot on the retina.

Jack's dad's eyes focus the image behind the retina. He needs glasses to shorten the light's focal point so that it hits the retina in the right place.

Glasses are often called corrective lenses. The lenses in glasses change the focal point of the light rays so that they hit the retina in just the right place. Some people need glasses. Some don't. Glasses with corrective lenses help people see the world around them clearly!

Why Do Some People Need Glasses?

Questions

_____ 1. Which of these word pairs are antonyms (words with opposite meanings)?
   A. nearsighted, farsighted
   B. picture, image
   C. reflects, bounces
   D. eye, retina

_____ 2. Someone who can see things near his eyes but has trouble seeing things far away is _____.
   A. farsighted
   B. nearsighted

_____ 3. Someone who can see things far away but has trouble seeing things near his eyes is _____.
   A. farsighted
   B. nearsighted

4. Glasses use _____ to help focus light on the correct spot on the retina.

Name: _____

How many of these can you write about? Think! Write! Check all the ones you answered.

☐ Do you know anyone who wears glasses? Write about someone who wears glasses.

☐ Have you ever had your vision checked? Write about it.

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Don't stop writing. Use a blank piece of paper to continue.