Baby’s eyes are comparatively large, reaching adult proportions at the age of two.

Children tend to be slightly hyperopic because of the configuration of the eye until adolescence.

Myopia is uncommon in infants, but tends to appear between six and nine.

The iris is slate gray because of the absence of stromal pigmentation normal adult color develops fully by the end of the first year.

The pupil reacts to light at birth, but is sluggish.

By six months old, the eye movements should be well coordinated


“In the embryo, formation of the eye begins at approximately the 22nd day of fetal life. During the next 56 to 8 weeks of intrauterine life, the development of the eye is largely completed in the dark environment of the uterus. In the newborn, the eye is approximately two thirds of its ultimate size. It grows rapidly during the first year after birth and reaches adult size by adolescence. “

“Pre-term infants are unable to adequately restrict the amount of light their retina may be exposed to because the pupillary light reflex is not present until 30 weeks of gestation. In the full term infant, however, the pupils are normally constricted for the first several weeks. “

Blink to threat is not present until 2 to 5 months after full term birth.

Eye movements are not well coordinated in normal newborn until 3 to 6 months of age.

Dolls eye movements (the eyes lag behind the turning of the head from side to side with the baby in supine position) are normally present at 2-3 months of age when the child can fixate well.

Tears are not present with crying until 1-3 months.
Visual acuity of a full term at birth is approximately 20/400.

The eye continues to develop visual synapses in the visual cortex until 10 years.

20/20 is normally achieved by 2 years.