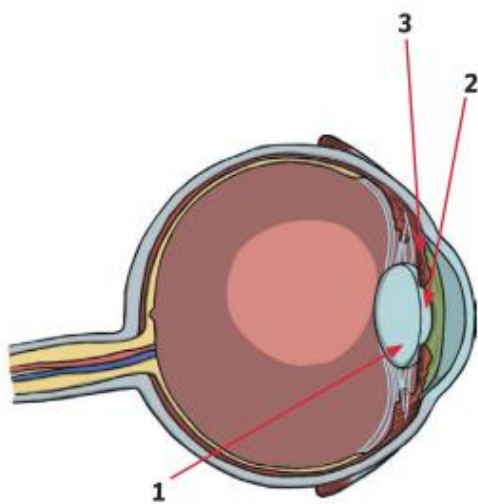
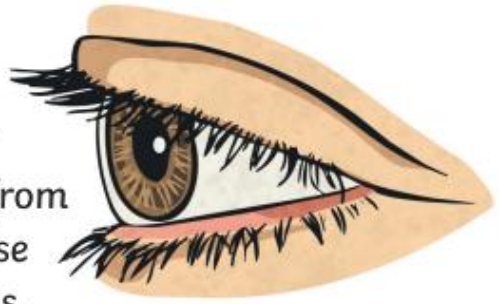


Our Senses - Sight

Our sense of sight is our ability to see the world around us, from the tiniest insect to the hugest mountain. Our eyes allow us to see by taking in light from all around us, and our brains recognise patterns in the light as shapes like balls, trees and faces. Our eyes are made up of different parts that each have important roles to help us see well.



The Eye

1. **The lens:** This part of the eye allows us to focus on objects whether they are a long way away or up close. It is flexible and can change shape quickly to keep our view clear.
2. **The pupil:** This is the dark hole in the middle of the eye and it controls how much light passes into the eye. If it is a very bright day, the pupil shrinks down until it is very small. If you try to walk around in the dark, the pupil will stretch out until it is as wide as it can go to capture as much light as possible.
3. **The iris:** This is the coloured part of the eye. This helps to control the size of the pupil, it is also a link to your family as you do get your eye colour from your parents.

Inside the eye, there are lots of other parts that help you see different colours and how far away things are.

Amazing Fact
Some scorpions have as many as 12 eyes!

Human eyes can be very different from those of other animals. Our eyes are made to see very clearly, whereas the eye of a fly is made to see how fast

things are moving. Snakes use their eyes to detect the body heat of animals they are hunting. Goats even have a pupil shaped like a rectangle so that they can see more of the space around them. Animals' eyes are designed to best help them in their own environments. Humans live in a variety of environments, so the human eye does a bit of everything.



Our sense of sight is important to everyday life but for some people, it is essential to their job. If you are an astronomer, you need your sight to study the stars and if you are an art critic, you need your sight to study the paintings of Van Gogh.



Though the eye is an amazing thing, sometimes it doesn't work as well as it should, but there are different ways now that people can be helped to see. People can wear glasses or contact lenses to help them focus. They can even have an operation on their eyes, which corrects any problems. However, some people do lose their sight or they are born blind. This doesn't mean they are helpless though. They can read books using Braille, a kind of writing made from raised dots, get around with the help of a guide dog and even play blind football!

Amazing Fact

Did you know that owls cannot move their eyeballs? This is why they need to be able to move their heads so easily.



Our Senses - Sight **Questions**

1. What part of the eye helps you to focus?

2. How many eyes can scorpions have?

3. Which shape is a goat's pupil?

4. Name two ways that people can be helped if they have problems with their eyes.

5. Name one of the jobs that needs good eyesight.

6. What part of the eye is coloured?

7. What does the pupil do in bright light?

8. Which activity do you think would be the hardest if you have poor eyesight?
