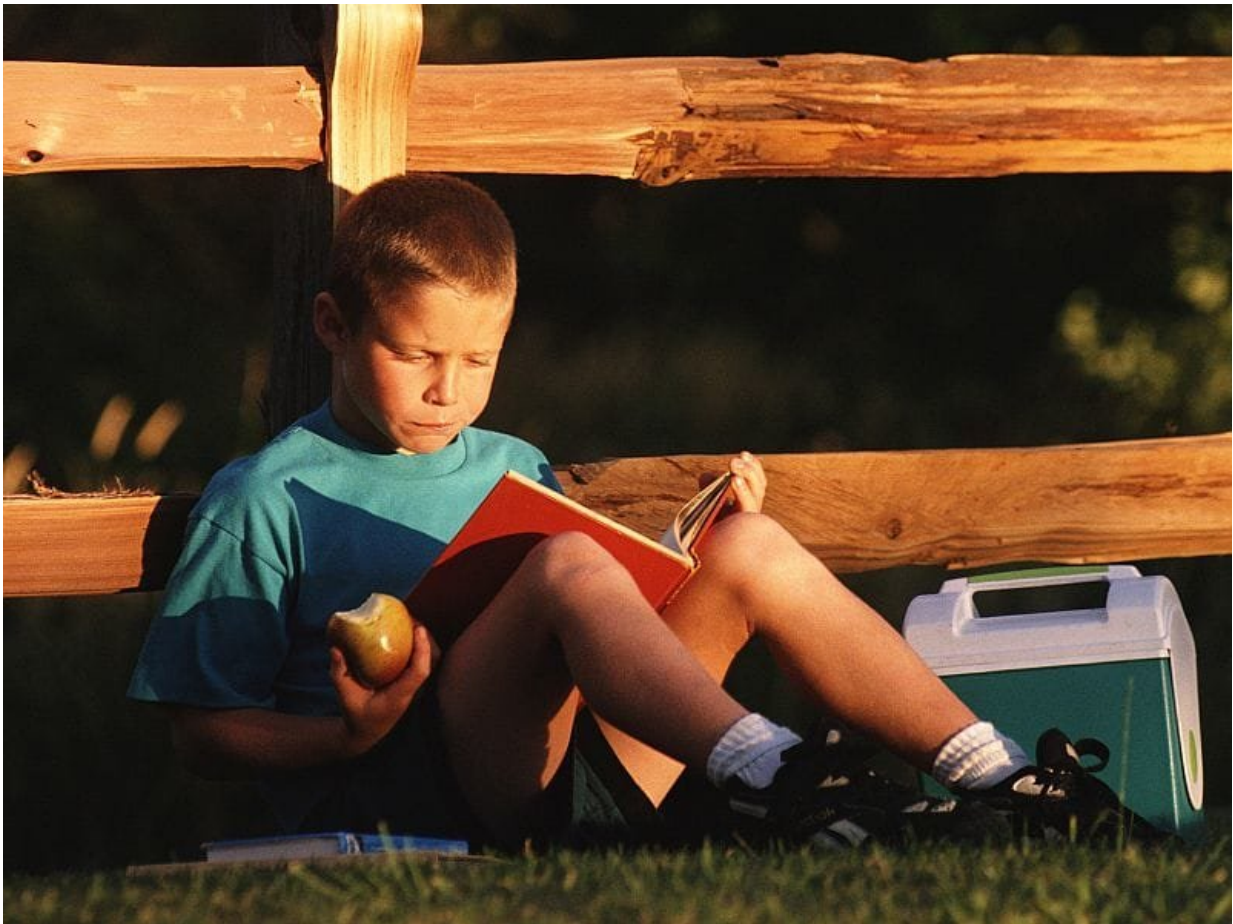


Amblyopia linked to lower self-perception in children

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(HealthDay)—Children with amblyopia report lower self-perception for

scholastic, social, and athletic measures, which may be associated with slower reading speed and worse motor skills, according to a study published online Nov. 15 in *JAMA Ophthalmology*.

Eileen E. Birch, Ph.D., from the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas, and colleagues surveyed healthy [children](#) in grades three to eight regarding self-perception of competence, appearance, conduct, and global self-worth. Participants included 50 children with amblyopia; 13 children without amblyopia with strabismus, anisometropia, or both; and 18 control children.

The researchers found that children with amblyopia had significantly lower scores than control children on the scholastic, social, and athletic competence domains of the Self-Perception Profile for Children. Further, a lower self-perception of scholastic competence was associated with a slower reading speed, and a lower self-perception of scholastic, social, and athletic competence was associated with worse performance of aiming and catching among children with [amblyopia](#). There were no significant differences between the groups regarding the self-perception of physical appearance or global self-worth.

"These results suggest lower self-perception and its association with reading speed and [motor skills](#) highlight the potentially wide-ranging influence of altered visual development in children in their everyday lives," the authors write.

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