

Skeffington's Four Circles – Re-Presented

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MELBOURNE, FL

Standing on the
shoulders of giants

Skeffington

Getman

Kraskin

Sutton

And so many, many more

Lost from the beginning

Early days

- Mort Davis - across the street from NIH
- Skeffington Symposium in 1987, 88
- COVD National Meeting, Philadelphia, PA 1987
- The move to southern California - SCCO
- The drive to “learn what I wasn’t going to learn in school”
- Walter Studt Practicum
- OEP meetings galore, student practice visits, campus lecture series
- First SCCO class permitted for externships in private practice - Getz/Etting; Sanet/Hillier, Valenti
- Live a Week of Optometry - Kraskin

Lost from the beginning

Graduation and early practice – Florida, VT only

A skills-based practice – Refractive Error, Visual Efficiency, Visual Information Processing

An avoidance of all “things” movement – Angels, balance = OT

Questioning the lack of success in some cases – the glass half full

The warmth and genius of Al Sutton

- – the superball on the turtle shell

Sam Berne and the leap of faith

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Recipe from a *Master Chef*

Sutton's Visual Learning Visual
Thinking Programs

Deep breathing

Long Swings

Jumping Jacks

Standing Balance

Patty Cake

Cross Pattern Skipping

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Recipe from a *Master Chef*

Sutton's Visual Learning Visual
Thinking Programs

Adaptations from an apprentice



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Sutton's Visual Learning Visual Thinking Programs

Adaptations from an apprentice

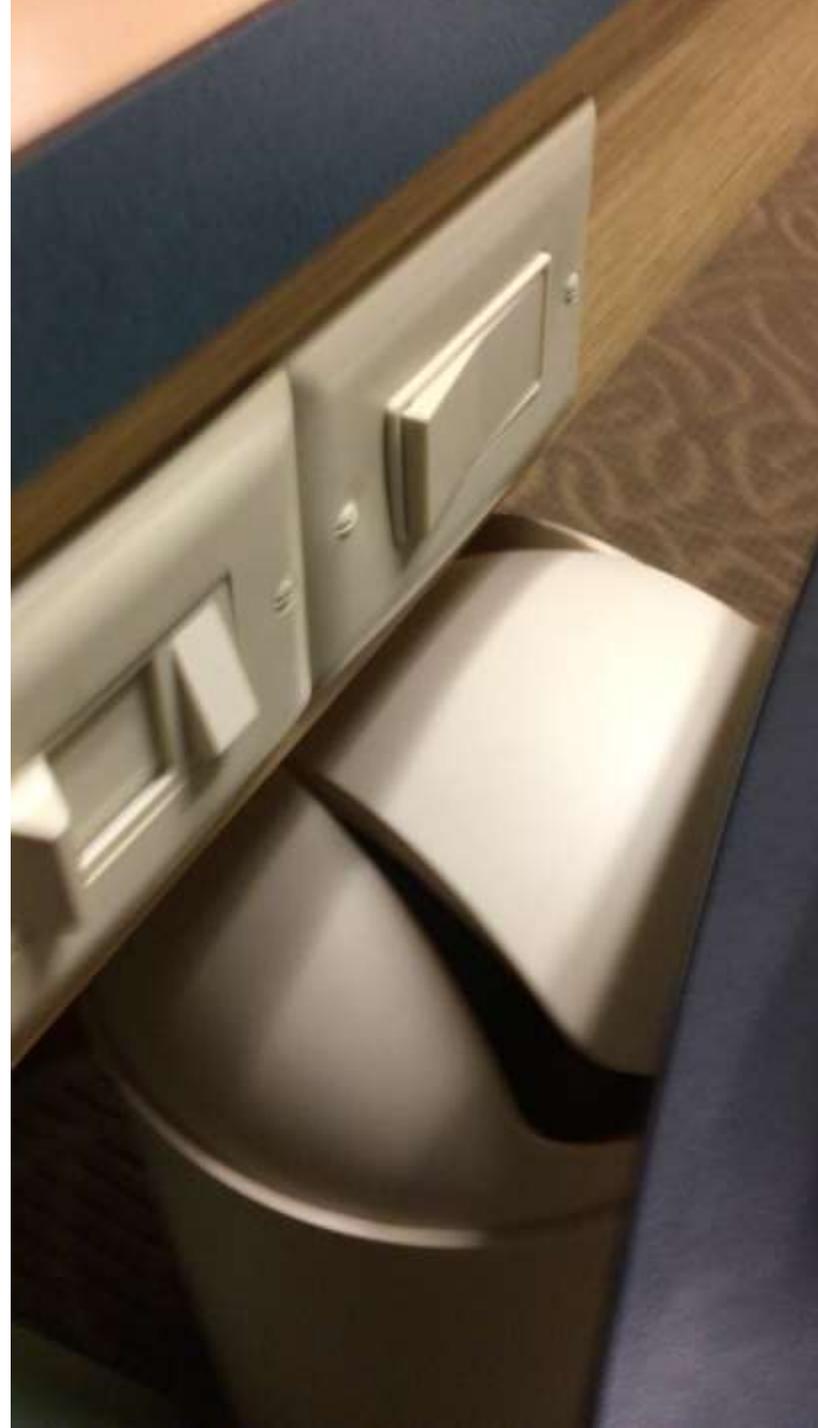


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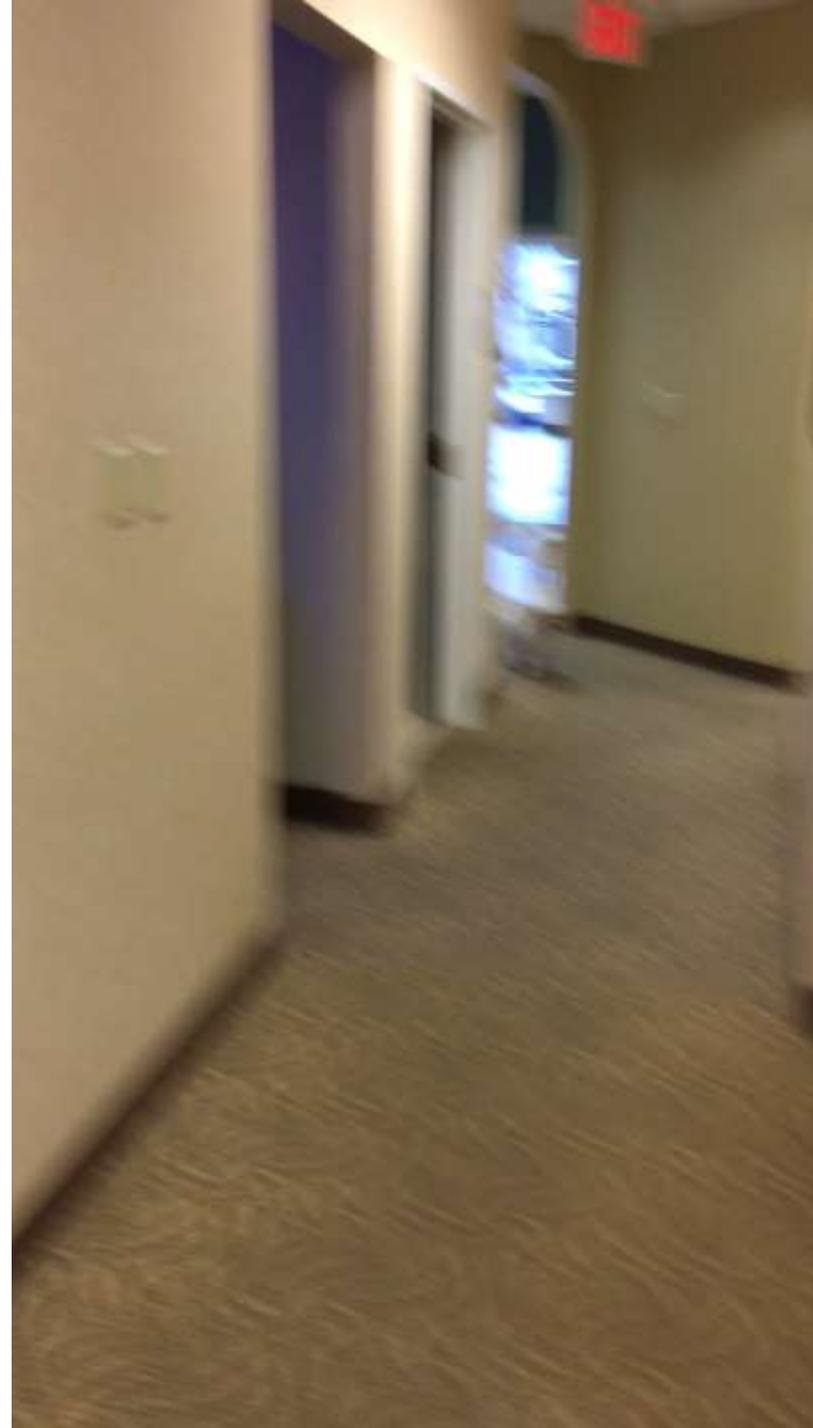


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Surprised by the results

Intermittent exotropia at near cured by Jumping Jacks

How could this be working?

- Audience participation

Surprised by the results

Strabismus and amblyopia

The diagnosis doesn't matter

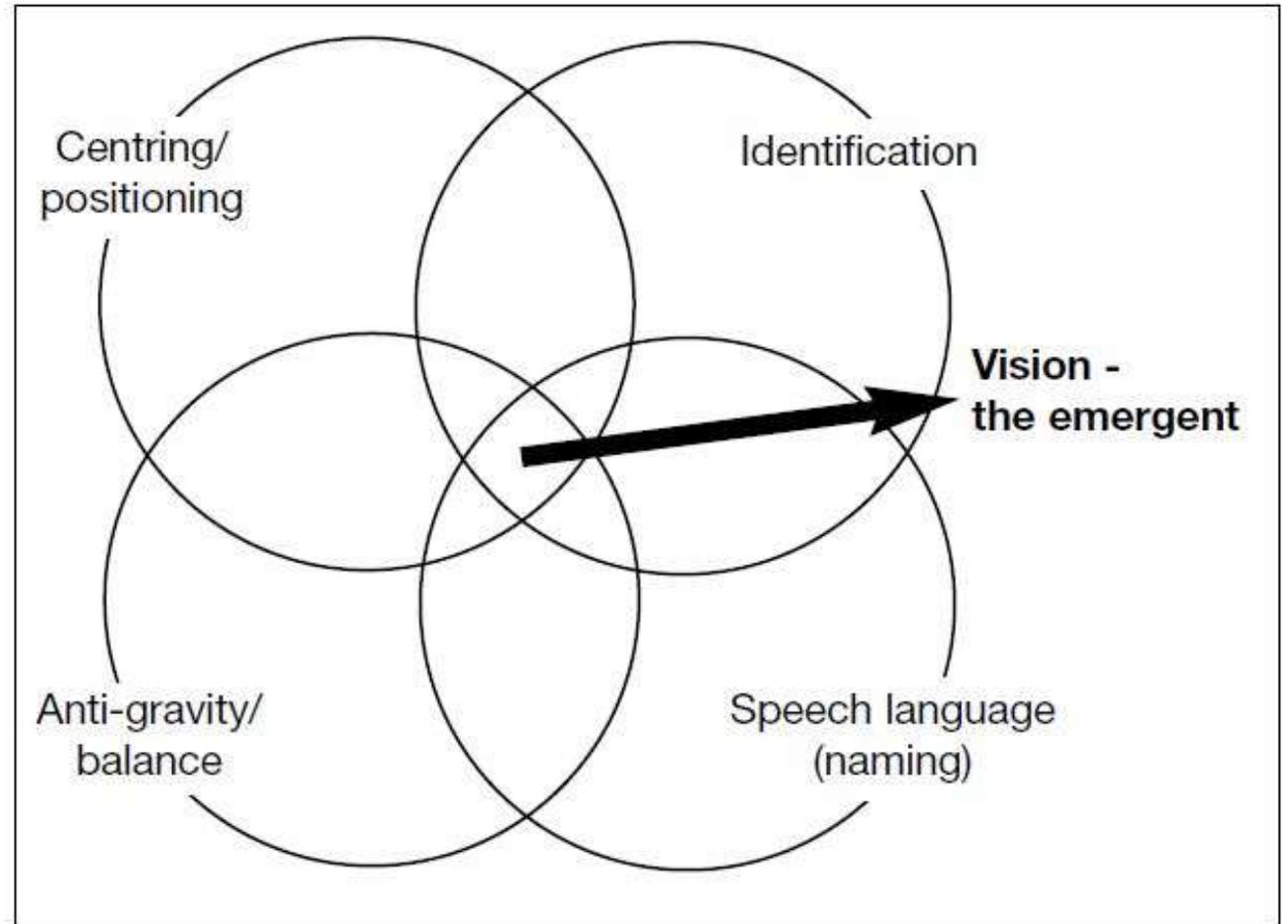
Observations during sessions

A new model or old models re-presented

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Skeffington's Four Circles

Figure 3: Skeffington's four circles concept of vision



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Skeffington's Four Circles

A new hierarchal model

A re-presentation of an old schema

Getman summarized by Birnbaum

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JAOA 1994

Marty Birnbaum

The emerging concepts of developmental vision in the 1950s fostered growth in the scope of optometric vision therapy. Getman stressed the significance of gross motor organization as a basis for the development of efficient fine motor, eye movement, visual form perception, and visualization abilities. Developmental vision treatment programs emphasized development of gross motor skills, organization, and awareness, in order to facilitate development of higher level visual functions.⁶³

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Gerry Getman

Arnold Gesell

How to Develop Your Child's Intelligence (Getman)

“fine motor control can only emerge out of gross motor control”

“all movement skills come from a very sequential development out of visually directed movement practice at all levels of both general and specific motor actions”

“both the dancer and the quarterback are excellent examples of directed movement movement that is directed, monitored, and modified by the visual system”

“undoubtedly, if general motor controls are lacking, the more specialized movement patterns will be restricted or inefficient”

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Anatomical vs Functional Models to Vision

The Three Functions to Vision (+/-)

The hierarchy

The results

A work in progress – strabismus – the final? Frontier

Grateful for the toolbox

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What is it? Identification

Where is it? Localization

Where am I? Orientation

Movement-based activities focused on creating challenges to orientation provide the foundation for efficient visual skills as measured by improvements in the visual analytical

Sutton - Movement - what we are observing is an external reflection of an internal organization

Getman - Gross motor control

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Current practice

Operates out of an empty exam lane in a primary care practice – full circle (spill into the hall sometimes)

90% third party / insurance – converted after 16 years of no third party / self pay only services

100% developmental / vision therapy

Doctor only practice – evaluations, conferences, “VT”

90% of VT sessions are 100% Sutton movement

“recipe” plus

- Randolph shuffle, Slap Tap, Look Ready Touch Back, Circle Line Jumping, Jump Rope Programs, Walking and Breathing

Some cases involve lifesaver cards, vectos, Groffman Tracking, etc

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In Memoriam

James B. Mayer, OD, FCOVD • 1957-2020

Thousand Oaks, CA

He was a true brother in our work; one who will be deeply missed.

Al Sutton, OD, MS, FCOVD

Always an example of selfless giving and always ready to share a smile from his warm, tender heart. I'm better for having known him.

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Paul Harris

Harry Wachs

Don Getz

Jim Mayer

Beth Ballinger

Carl Hillier

Bob Sanet and on and on

OEP Regional Clinical Seminar - ??? Happy to share