Confirming Suspicions about Prosopagnosia

As you might find, a diagnosis of prosopagnosia for a child is occasionally difficult to come by. Some parents shared their experiences of ways they were able to confirm their own suspicions that their child was not recognizing faces . . .

Testing your child with real people

♦ “I went to pick her up from something and stood amongst the other parents deliberately not saying anything. She walked straight past me. Even though I knew (or strongly suspected) what was going on, it was a very strange feeling not to be recognized by my daughter.” - Parent
♦ “I asked my mother to come to a store we’d be at, and to stroll into the aisle where we were shopping but not speak to us to see if my son would recognize her.” - Parent

Flashcards

♦ “[I] made flashcards of preschool classmates’ faces.” - Parent
♦ “[I created] my own “celebrity faces test” using family and friends (with no hair or clothes showing).” - Parent

Homemade Tests

♦ “Many families we have worked with have put together homemade tests of face recognition. This works very well is there is a younger sibling to use as a control subject. If you have a 5 year old that does really well recognizing photographs of family members with hair and clothes removed and the 8 year old doesn’t do as well, this is a pretty good sign of prosopagnosia.” - Researcher

Online tools

♦ [http://www.faceblind.org/facetests/](http://www.faceblind.org/facetests/)
♦ Contact the Yonas Lab! - Researcher

DISCLAIMER: There is no research to confirm or deny any benefits to you or your child that may result from the information included in Project ProsoFamily. The University of Minnesota does not endorse anything on this page. It is simply words of wisdom from individuals and parents based on their personal experiences for you to adapt as you see fit.