

# Preparing for the show

## Start here

There are many different ways to talk about child eye care, enough for several shows.  
For example:

1. Main causes and solutions of childhood blindness
2. Child eye care: steps to take when your baby is born
3. Busting myths around childhood blindness
4. Knowing the basics about childhood eye care

Choose one angle.  
Refer to pg 14-15

Knowing the basics about child eye care.

Educate yourself more on the topic:

1. Orbis Africa:  
[www.orbis.org/pages/research/](http://www.orbis.org/pages/research/)
  2. Baby Centre:  
[www.babycenter.com/0\\_red-flags-signs-that-your-baby-may-have-a-vision-problem\\_1439840.bc](http://www.babycenter.com/0_red-flags-signs-that-your-baby-may-have-a-vision-problem_1439840.bc)
  3. Mail and Guardian:  
<http://mg.co.za/article/2013-09-05-no-child-should-go-blind>
  5. Kids Health:  
[http://kidshealth.org/kid/health\\_problems/sight/visual\\_impaired.html](http://kidshealth.org/kid/health_problems/sight/visual_impaired.html)
  6. Key phrases to Google: child eye care, child blindness, child cataracts
- Also remember there are lots of local resources: newspapers, community-based organisations, government officials, and medical providers

Find out more.

This could include:

1. What are the key signs of childhood blindness
2. What to do if you notice signs of childhood blindness
3. Where to go for child eye care
4. How to use both traditional and medical practitioners for optimum child eye care

Decide on a few different ways to talk about "Knowing the basics about child eye care"

Find people to speak to in your community.

1. Community members (young and old) to find out what they know about child eye health
2. A care giver that looks after a child who recovered from eye-sight problems
3. A young person who suffered from childhood blindness
4. Medical professionals (doctors and/nurses) that work with child eye health
5. A traditional healer who has received training in child eye health

Find different ways to talk about the topic and structure your show outline.  
Refer to pg 17-20



You must always introduce your show and radio features. Then once you've played your features have a concluding statement for each one. Don't forget a final conclusion for the very end of the show. Use links (facts, tips, did you know's, music) to glue it all together.

Write your radio script and produce your features. Refer to pg 21-24

Beginning	Middle	End
Intro to the show	Intro audio profile	Intro interview
Intro vox pops		Interview:
Vox Pops: Walking through a local neighbourhood, ask fellow young neighbours: 'How much do you know about child eye health?'	Audio profile: A young person about their journey of suffering from childhood blindness and how they overcame it.	A doctor or a nurse, well versed in child eye health care, is interviewed on what the basic important information is, signs of childhood blindness and what to do and where to go.
Outro vox pops	Outro audio profile	Outro interview
Music transition	Music transition & jingle	Music transition & jingle
	Intro commentary	Outro the show
	Audio commentary A caregiver shares the importance of knowing about child eye health and where to go to find out more.	PSA: Raise awareness around the key signs of childhood blindness and the steps to take .
	Outro audio commentary	

## Knowing the basics – Child Eye Care

When you wake up in the morning what's the first thing you do? Open your eyes, right? And what do you see? Imagine such a simple act of not being able to see the sunrays through the curtain or the switch for your room light.

### Tips

How to identify a potential cataract:

- You notice white, grayish-white, or yellow material in the pupil of a child's eye.
  - A child's eyes seem sensitive to light.
    - A white spot on the pupil.
  - Any signs that a child cannot see well (lights, mobiles, and other distractions still don't catch her/his attention.)
- If you notice any of these signs, insist on an eye test at your local clinic, hospital or optometrist – if after the tests or medication the signs still carry on, go back to your local clinic, optometrist and hospital.

### Facts

- Three-quarters (more than half!) of learning that happens in childhood is through sight.
- In developing countries (like South Africa), 60% of children die within a year of going blind.
- Untreated cataracts are the leading cause of blindness in children in South Africa. (cataract is the clouding of the lens of the eye which impairs vision).
- Cataracts can be treated quite easily with surgical intervention but the timing is critical – if a child is born with a cataract they should have the surgery before they are six years old
  - A Malawi study measured the impact of training Traditional Healers in medical eye care. It proved that 70% of patients visited a clinic or hospital after consulting with a traditional healer.

### Did you know?

Sub-Saharan Africa (which includes South Africa) is the region with the highest number of childhood blindness in the world. Yet it is estimated that at least 50% of blind children in South Africa would still have their sight if their eye problems were identified and treated in time.

## How to present your show

Use your produced radio features, your research, and the suggested script and questions to write your own script.

Refer to pg 21-24

Intro:

Host 1: You're listening to [RADIO STATION] and this is [NAME OF SHOW]. My name is [NAME]...

Host 2: And my name is [NAME], and on today's show we're talking about eyes, you know those two things sitting in your head we rely on from the minute we wake up!

Host 1: Yes, and today we are going to be speaking to people who are going to share with us how we can prevent childhood blindness. Like [INSERT NAME OF YOUNG PERSON] who shares how he overcame childhood blindness...

[PLAY AUDIO PROFILE]

Questions for your interview:

1. Why is it important for us to know about child eye health?
2. What are the main causes of childhood blindness in South Africa?
3. How do we prevent it from happening?
4. Is eye surgery dangerous?
5. What are the most common signs that a child might be going blind?
6. What advice do you have for a parent or caregiver who notices these signs?
7. Do you think its possible for traditional healers and medical practitioners to work together? How?

Refer to pg 8-10

Outro:

Host 1: Imagine if we all made an effort to know more about child eye health – so many young people in South Africa would not be blind now! 50% to be exact!

Host 2: Yeah, eyesight is something we take for granted everyday and this has really 'opened my eyes'!

Host 1: Well let's keep our ears and eyes open and not forget to tune into our show next week [DAY] at [TIME],

Host 1 & 2: Till then, it's bye from us!

You've finalised your script, produced your radio features, and finalised your show clock.

It's time to go live on air!

Prepare to present your show. Refer to pg 25-28