



**OREGON STATE ELKS....  
PROVIDING THE GIFT OF SIGHT SINCE 1949.**



Ella has completed 35 service hours for the See to Read program.

See to Read provides free vision screenings to children ages 3-7 years old at public libraries across the state. The program was launched this past summer in response to a new state mandated law that requires children entering kindergarten to show proof of a vision screening.

Ella spoke at the See to Read kick-off event in front of hundreds of children and their families and has since attended other See to Read events like local health fairs and vision screenings. Ella is an example of how early detected vision problems can allow children the opportunity to be successful.

After being diagnosed with a cataract, an eye disorder that causes vision to become clouded and blurred in one or both eyes, Ella was prescribed glasses at the age of two. For many parents this diagnosis would cause worry because of the negative stigma associated with wearing glasses. However, the aim of See to Read has been to change this public perception because of how important clear vision is for child development.

Ella is involved in numerous activities, well-spoken, and a joy to be around. As I, and others, have witnessed with Ella's confidence and self-assurance, wearing glasses does not damage self-esteem but can actually raise it.

Thank you,

Joannah Vaughan

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