

# Read America

Praxis Education Center    ♥    Chrysalis School

BUSINESS OFFICE & MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 1246, Mount Dora, FL 32756

CLINIC AND SCHOOL LOCATION: 1979 Longwood-Lake Mary Road, Suite 1001, Longwood, FL 32750

[readamerica.net](http://readamerica.net) ♦ [praxiseducationcenter.com](http://praxiseducationcenter.com) ♦ [chrysalisschool.com](http://chrysalisschool.com)

TEL: 800-732-3868 ● FAX: 352-735-2124

## SUMMER NEWSLETTER



**McKay Scholarship Students**— On May 1st the Choice website will allow schools to register students for the 2008/09 school year. As you know our online registration form does not include the Social Security numbers of students or parents for reasons of the utmost security. This information is required by McKay. Someone from the Chrysalis school office will contact parents of McKay Scholarship students during the week of April 29th so that we can finalize your child's registration with Chrysalis through the McKay system.

**Home Visits**— Families of students who will be attending Chrysalis School during the 2008/09 school year are encouraged to arrange a home visit with Carmen. A thing of the past for some schools, at Chrysalis we believe the home/school connection is critical to your child's school success. If your child is attending summer school we'd like to organize a home visit for May. If your child is starting at Chrysalis in the fall we would like to plan a visit in June.

**Summer Classes**— Summer classes begin on June 16th and will continue through Wednesday, July 2nd. Please see Carmen to make arrangements for attendance. We are very fortunate to have Sheryl Schmucker working with us this summer. Sheryl is a speech and language therapist and self contained classroom teacher with Seminole County Schools. Sheryl also holds advanced certification in Phono-Graphix and Language Wise, and is a licensed Phono-Graphix teacher trainer and inservice provider. I hope you will all help us make her feel welcome during her stay with us at Chrysalis School.

**DIR/Floortime - News and Information Session**— We're very pleased to announce that we have taken the next step in our implementation of the DIR/Floortime model of affect based intervention. Having attended the introductory workshop Carmen qualifies to attend the Floortime institute in Lansdowne, VA this July. Developed by Dr. Stanley Greenspan, Floortime is an affect-based intervention that follows the child's natural emotions and interests to engage the child for learning interactions that enable the different parts of the mind and brain to work together and to build successively higher levels of social, emotional, and intellectual capacities. We're very pleased to be able to take this next step with our use of Floortime in order to bring our students the very best interventions available. We will be hosting a workshop on the topic of Floortime on **Tuesday, July 22nd from 7:30 - 9:00**. Please RSVP as soon as possible if you plan to attend. You may also be interested to read the two Floortime studies on the link at the far bottom of our sensational classrooms page at [chrysalisschool.com](http://chrysalisschool.com).

***Vital Links Advanced Training***— Carmen will be in Atlanta May 3rd-5th for advanced level training in the Vital Links therapeutic listening program. We've had tremendous success with Vital Links level one materials with several students since we first implemented the program in December. We look forward to being able to provide access to the higher level skills the advanced training addresses.

***Occupational Therapy***— We're very pleased to announce that we have arranged for ***Life Skills*** to provide occupational therapy for those of our students whose IEPs recommend it. ***Life Skills*** is the oldest pediatric services center in Central Florida, founded in 1993, the same year as our parent company Read America, Inc. They are quite simply the best and most reliable provider of sensory integration centered occupational therapy services in the area.

***Teaching Partner Update***— We received thirty-one replies to our position post on Craig's list this past month. We're scheduling interviews for May and look forward to a happy ending in our search for a teaching partner for Carmen for the coming school year. Once we have made our hire we will know more about our needs for an SLP for speech and language services. If we are unable to find a teaching partner who is also an SLP we will of course be contracting speech and language services through a local provider. We'll keep you posted.

***First Day of School 2008/09 School Year***— The first day of classes at Chrysalis School is Monday, August 18th. Arrival is from 8:50 - 9:00. Dismissal is from 1:00 - 1:10. Snacks for the week are listed below. Please feel welcome to augment your child's snack as you feel it is necessary. We have very limited cold storage, so we suggest a room temp snack.

Monday -    cheeze and wheat crackers  
Tuesday -    carrot slices and raisins  
Wednesday - popcorn

Thursday -   peanut butter on wheat crackers  
Friday -      apples and cheese slices  
This week's juice will be 100% orange.



***Summer Closed Dates***— We will be closed for all sessions during the following dates:

From June 9th through 13th Geoff will be training teachers in New Mexico. There will be no student sessions this week.

From July 7th through July 11th Carmen will be attending the Floortime Institute in Virginia. There will be no student sessions this week.

From August 3-8 we will be on holiday with our family. There will be no student sessions this week.

**ReAL Network News**— We launched our Read America Lessons Net work on March 18th with twice weekly webcasts of teaching sessions available to our 2000+ member teachers trained in our methods. The reception has been nothing short of fantastic, with dozens of thank you emails for adding this innovative service.

**The video of Carmen and L was brilliant. It really made my day. I learned so much from it, especially since I realized that I was not alone in our reading struggle and dilemmas. Everyone goes through pupils who test your patience. Carmen has the patience of a saint. I take inspiration from her. I have always wanted to sit in a real class to observe her, and your ReAl networking modern marvel has provided me just that, an opportunity I have been dreaming of.**

**—Radhiya Juma**

**Special Needs Coordinator, Emirates International School, Dubai**

**Carmen, you have certainly upped the learning curve with the ReAL Network. Thank you so much for offering this fantastic opportunity for teachers.**

**—Classroom Teacher**

**Southampton, UK**

**H is a great kid! Please thank him for me if he knows he was taped as he has helped me understand my students and my own son a little more.**

**—Katherine Loop**

**Professional Teacher Member (and Mommy), Toronto, Canada**

**Read America Summer Training Events at Praxis Education Center**— We will be holding four important teacher training events this summer commencing on July 16th and running through July 24th. We very much appreciate your patience with us as we fulfill our obligation to share our insights and effectively pass on the benefits to children around the world. Please consult the following schedule, as it requires that some student sessions be rescheduled.

July 16 and 17	Clay Math	There will be no student sessions on these two days. Please see Carmen or Geoff to reschedule or make arrangements to skip the week.
July 18 and 19	Our Most Challenging 100 Students Workshop	This is a weekend and will not effect regular student sessions.
July 21 through July 24 <u>9:00-1:00</u>	Sound to Symbol to Meaning Dual Certification Course	Morning student sessions will be suspended during this period.
July 21 through July 24 <u>2:00-5:00</u>	New Trainer Preparation	Carmen will not be seeing clients during this period. Please see Carmen to reschedule, or see Geoff about the possibility of taking Carmen's session with your child during this period. Geoff's afternoon sessions will proceed as scheduled.