

SHERYL KNAPP, M.ED., C/OGA, CDT

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Curriculum Vitae

OBJECTIVE

To enable all students to benefit from research-based literacy practices.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2005–present **Literacy Learning & Assessment Center of CT** Norwalk, CT

Literacy Consultant

- Conduct comprehensive literacy evaluations to assess reading, writing, and related skills, and make recommendations for instruction.
- Collaborate with school personnel to ensure that any identified needs are addressed through literacy instruction and related supports, utilizing evidence-based practices.

Educational Therapist/Tutor

- Work individually with students to remediate all facets of literacy using systematic, sequential, multisensory, evidence-based practices – including the Visualizing & Verbalizing program and the Orton-Gillingham approach.

2006–present ***SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*** Westport, CT

Contributing Writer and Editor, SmartKids with LD newsletter

1986–1987 **New York University** New York, NY

Statistics Instructor

NON-PROFIT EXPERIENCE

Board of Directors:

- **The Reading League, Connecticut Branch** (2021-present)
- **Dyslexia Society of Connecticut** (2008–2021); **President**, 2014-2020
- **Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress** (2006–2012)

EDUCATION

2009-2011 **Post University, School of Education** Waterbury, CT

M.Ed., Curriculum & Instruction, with a specialization in Literacy.

2005–2018 **Susan Santora, F/AOGPE** Guilford, CT

Earned Associate (2010) and Certified (2018) Level certification from The Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners and Educators (AOGPE), under the tutelage of a Fellow of the Academy.

1990–1992 **The Wharton School, University of PA** Philadelphia, PA

M.B.A., Decision Sciences; tutor for Young Entrepreneurs community program.

1982–1986 **Wesleyan University** Middletown, CT

B.A., Cognitive Science; Senior Thesis on brain lateralization in processing visual stimuli.

PRESENTATIONS

- Knapp, S. (2021, November). *Evidence-Based Reading Interventions*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Virtual.
- Knapp, S. (2021, July). *Structured Word Inquiry*. Round Table Discussion, Connecticut Science of Reading Group. Virtual.
- Knapp, S. (2021, February). *Interpreting Standardized Assessments to Inform Instruction for Students with Dyslexia*. Orton-Gillingham seminar. Virtual.
- Knapp, S. (2020, October). *Evidence-Based Reading Instruction*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Virtual.
- Knapp, S. (2020, October). Dyslexia & Multi-Sensory Structured Language. Invited lecturer for The Science of Early Reading Development seminar (SPEC 542), University of Saint Joseph, School of Education, West Hartford, CT (virtual).
- Knapp, S. (2019, October). *Evidence-Based Reading Instruction*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Hartford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2019, October). *Using Reading Evaluations to Inform Instruction and Assess Progress*. Special Education Equity for Kids (SEEK) Annual Conference. New Haven, CT.
- Knapp, S. & Curra, K. (2019, March). *Demystifying Dyslexia*. Annual Conference for the Academy of Orton-Gillingham Practitioners & Educators (AOGPE). White Plains, NY.
- Knapp, S. (2019, February). *Using Standardized Testing to Inform Remediation*. Orton-Gillingham seminar, Certified level. Norwalk, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2018, November). *Dyslexia and ADHD in the Early Childhood Years*. Invited lecturer for Health, Safety, and Nutrition (ECE H176) class, Naugatuck Valley Community College, Department of Early Childhood Education, Danbury, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2018, November). *Reading Evaluations to Identify Programming Needs*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Hartford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2018, September). *Literacy Evaluations and the Dyslexic Student*. SPED*NET Wilton, Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities, & Sono Branch Public Library: Community Conversations. Norwalk, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2018, June). *Effective Reading Instruction*. SEEK of CT Conference. Woodbridge, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2017, October). *Literacy Evaluations of Students with Complex Learning Styles*. Invited lecturer for Assessment in Special Education seminar (SPEC 526), University of Saint Joseph, School of Education, West Hartford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2017, September). *Evidence-Based Reading Interventions*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Hartford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2017, September). *Literacy Evaluations and the Dyslexic Student*. SPED*NET Wilton, Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities, & Sono Branch Public Library: Community Conversations. Norwalk, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2016, November). *Research-Based Reading Interventions*. SpEdConnecticut, Inc., “What You Need to Know About Special Education” training series. Hartford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2016, May). *Literacy Evaluations and the Dyslexic Student*. Orton-Gillingham seminar, Learning House, Guilford, CT.
- Treimanis, A. & Knapp, S. (2016, March). *Every Child a Reader*. Council of Parents, Attorneys & Advocates Annual Conference; Philadelphia, PA.

- Feinstein, A., Knapp, S. & Dolphin, L. (2016, February). *Our Nation's Commitment to Special Education: How are We Doing – and Why is it So Expensive?* WesSeminar, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2015, November). *Reading Tests: Decoding the Assessments*. Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention, Westbrook, CT.
- Knapp, S. & Treimanis, A. (2015, November). *Getting Help for Struggling Readers: A Parent's Guide to Negotiating the Special Education Maze*. Stamford Jewish Community Center, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Stamford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2014, October). *Panel Moderator: Critical Elements of a Multi-sensory, Structured Language Intervention*. Dyslexia Society of Connecticut Annual Conference, Westbrook, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2014, March). *A Parent's Guide to Reading Instruction for Struggling Readers*, at Brookfield Public Library, for Brookfield SEPTA, Brookfield, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2013, December). *What Every Parent Needs to Know About Effective Reading Instruction*, at Fairfield Public Library, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.
- Knapp, S. & Fleming, G. (2013, December). *A Parent's Guide to Effective Reading Instruction: What It Is and How to Get It*. Fairfield Public Library, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2013, April). *The Big Picture: Rethinking Dyslexia*. Panel member, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2013, April). *Understanding Reading Assessments*. FAPE University; University of Connecticut – Stamford Campus, Stamford, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2012, December). *Effective Reading Instruction: What It Is and How to Get It*, at Villa Maria School, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.
- Knapp, S. & Whitbread, K. (2011, November). *Creating Fluent Readers*. Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention, Cromwell, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2011, November). *Understanding Reading Assessments*. Connecticut Association for Children & Adults with Learning Disabilities, Norwalk, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2011, November). *iCan Program Moderator* at Winston Preparatory School, for SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2011, October). *Creating Fluent Readers*. Special Education Network of New Canaan, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2010, April). *Research-Based Reading Instruction for Students with Disabilities*. Invited lecturer for Developmental Psychopathology seminar (PSY 326/532), Connecticut College, Department of Psychology, New London, CT.
- Whitbread, K. & Knapp, S. (2009, November). *What Do We Know About Teaching Reading to Children with Down Syndrome?* Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention, Cromwell, CT.
- Knapp, S., & Whitbread, K. (2009, October). *Teaching Students with Intellectual Disabilities*. Annual Conference of the Connecticut Branch of the International Dyslexia Association (ConnBIDA), “Response to Reading Intervention: Making it Work – From Organization to Implementation”, Albertus Magnus College, New Haven Connecticut.
- Schine, R. & Knapp, S. (2009, March). *Let's Talk, Session III: Know the School*. Connecticut Association for Children and Adults with Learning Disabilities (CACLD), Norwalk, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2009, March). *Understanding Reading Evaluations*. SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Greenwich, CT.
- Knapp, S. (2008, November). *Effective Reading Instruction*. SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Greenwich, CT.

Knapp, S. (2008, October). *Teaching Students with Down Syndrome to Read*. Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Annual Convention, Cromwell, CT.

Knapp, S. & Whitbread, K. (2007, November). *Is Your Child Getting Appropriate Help Learning to Read, Write and Spell – and What You Can Do About It*. SmartKids with Learning Disabilities, Westport, CT.

PUBLICATIONS

Whitbread, K., Knapp, S., Bengtson, M. (January 7, 2021). “Teaching Foundational Reading Skills to Students with Intellectual Disabilities.” *Teaching Exceptional Children*.

Knapp, S. (September 2017). “Finding a Reading Specialist (For Your Child with LD).” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*.

Knapp, S. & Whitbread, K. (Winter 2012). “Creating Fluent Readers.” *Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Quarterly*, Volume 23, Issue 1, pp. 8-9.

Knapp, S. (May 30, 2012). “David Faile: Master of the Skies.” Interview with Master Pilot David Faile. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*.

Knapp, S. (April 12, 2011). “Helping Kids with LD Improve Their Social Communication Skills.” Based on a presentation by Lydia H. Soifer, Ph.D. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*.

Knapp, S. (October 5, 2010). “Mind Your Manners.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*, Issue 10.

Knapp, S. (September 27, 2010). “Winning Over Those on the Front Line.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*, Issue 9.

Knapp, S. (September 6, 2010). “High-Tech Help for Reading and Writing.” Based on a presentation by Shelley Lacey-Castelot, ATACP. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*, Issue 7.

Knapp, S. (August 9, 2010). “Twice-Exceptional Students: Guidelines for Success.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*.

Knapp, S. (July 5, 2010). “Living with LD: A Kids-Eye View.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities e-Newsletter*.

Knapp, S. (August 2009). “The Case for a Comprehensive Approach to ADHD”, Interview with Stanley Greenspan, M.D. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 63, p. 7.

Knapp, S. (August 2009). “Understanding Reading Evaluations.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 63, p. 3.

Knapp, S. (May 2009). “Helping the Older, Struggling Reader.” Based on a presentation by Margie Gillis, Ph.D., for Norwalk SEEKS. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 61, pp. 1-2.

Knapp, S. (May 2009). “Reflections on a PPT Meeting.” *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 61, p. 7.

Knapp, S. (May 2009). “Truth or Myth? Special Education Staffing.” Presentation by Attorney Nora Belanger for Norwalk SEEKS. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 61, p. 8.

Knapp, S. (April 2009). “Making Use of Evaluations.” Based on the presentation “Neuropsychological Evaluations” by Scott Bezsylo for Norwalk SEEKS. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 60, p. 3.

Knapp, S. (February 2009). “Truth or Myth? Special Education Services.” Presentation by Attorney Nora Belanger for Norwalk SEEKS. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 59, p. 8.

- Knapp, S. (February 2009). "5 Ways to Win Over Your Child's IEP Team." *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 59, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (December 2008). "Arming Kids for Success." Interview with Mark J. Griffin, Ph.D. for *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 58, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (December 2008). "Truth or Myth? Special Education Law." Presentation by Attorney Nora Belanger for *Norwalk SEEKS*. *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 8, Number 58, p. 8.
- Knapp, S. (November 2008). "Auditory Processing Disorders: Is it For Real?" *Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 57, p. 3.
- Knapp, S. (October 2008). "Explosive Kids." Interview with Ross Greene, Ph.D. for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 56, p. 5.
- Knapp, S. (September 2008). "Jonathan Mooney: Still Telling it Like it Is." Interview for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 55, p. 4.
- Knapp, S. (Spring 2008). "Getting Your Child the Reading Help S/he Needs." *Connecticut Down Syndrome Congress Quarterly*, Volume 21, Issue 2, pp. 1 & 10.
- Knapp, S. (May 2008). "Comprehending Comprehension PART II: Teaching Students to Comprehend." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 53, p. 7.
- Knapp, S. (April 2008). "Comprehending Comprehension PART I." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 52, pp. 1-2.
- Knapp, S. (April 2008). "The Twice-Exceptional Child." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 52, p. 3.
- Knapp, S. (February 2008). "Getting the Right Intervention." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 7, Number 51, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (December 2007). "Living With LD: A Kid's Eye View." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 50, pp. 4-5.
- Knapp, S. (October 2007). "Making a Difference, Many Children at a Time." Interview with Shary Maskel for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 48, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (September 2007). "Pam & Pete Wright Redux." Interview for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 47, pp. 1-2.
- Knapp, S. (June 2007). "Diana Hanbury King: Perspective on Dyslexia." Interview for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 46, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (April 2007). "Salle Howes: Taking the Lead." Interview for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 43, p. 6.
- Knapp, S. (April 2007). "Closing the Achievement Gap: The Pueblo Miracle." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 6, Number 43, p. 3.
- Knapp, S. (September 2006). "On the Record About Special Education in America: Pam & Pete Wright." Interview for *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 5, Number 41, pp. 1-2.
- Knapp, S. (September 2006). "Parent-Teacher Partnerships: Winning Over Those on the Front Line." *SmartKids with Learning Disabilities*, Volume 5, Number 39, p. 6.