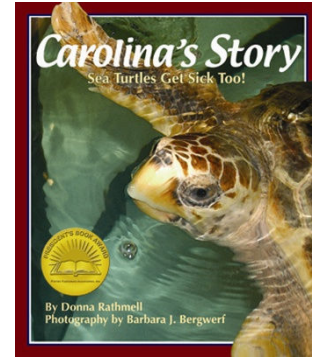
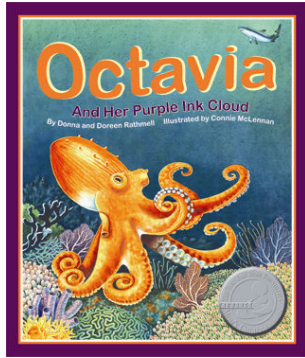


Schedule a School Visit with Award-winning South Carolina Children's Author Donna Rathmell German!



WINNER! 2006 Florida Publisher's Assoc. Best Children's Nonfiction Award

Carolina's Story: Sea Turtles Get Sick Too! stemmed from Donna's volunteer job with the South Carolina Aquarium's Education Department. While not generally open to the public, Donna was able to visit the sea turtle hospital where she noted that the medical procedures were essentially the same as what children experience when hospitalized. It was, however, as Donna watched Carolina swim into the ocean upon her release, that Donna realized that the story needed to be told. To tell Carolina's story, Donna teamed up with photographer Barbara Bergwerf, another SCA volunteer, who photo-documents every turtle in the hospital.

FINALIST! 2007 Just for Mom Foundation Moms' Choice Award

Although published later, *Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud* was actually co-written years before. Donna and her sister, Doreen, were looking for fun ways to help their own children want to learn more about ocean animals, camouflage, and character traits such as "practice makes perfect." It must have worked because all three of Donna's daughters are open-ocean divers and are fascinated with ocean life. In addition to writing, Donna is the editor of Sylvan Dell Publishing and is responsible for walking each title through production from the manuscript selection, art development, to printing.

Words from Donna:

"All school visits are geared directly to the grade level. While the children are entering the room, I usually try to get a quick idea from the teachers about what they are currently studying so I can support what is being discussed in the classroom. If time is tight, it is best if the children have already read the book (s); however, I do have the book(s) on power point so that I can easily read to the students."

Educational presentation topics:

- Book background & secrets
- Loggerhead and octopus fun facts
- Body structure and adaptations to living in ocean
- Comparison of sea turtle to land turtle
- Comparison of size & weight of full grown loggerheads to students
- Plastic bag "jellyfish"
- Do animals really talk to each other?
- Camouflage: why? (predators AND prey)
- Writing — research, drafts, vocabulary



Not only are Donna's books fun, they're educational, too!

The back of each book features a "[For Creative Minds](#)" section:

Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud

- Camouflage and Protection
- Octopus Fun Facts
- Octopus Ink Cloud Craft
- Color Your Own Ink Cloud

Carolina's Story: Sea Turtles Get Sick Too!

- Loggerhead Turtle Fun Facts
- How Do You Measure Up to a Loggerhead?
- Make Your Own Sea Turtle
- Turtle Photos

Additional Online Resources include: Cross-curricular [Teaching Activities](#), [English/Spanish eBooks](#), [Audiobooks](#), child-friendly [Related Websites](#), Comprehension & Math [Quizzes](#). Aligned to [national and state curriculum Standards](#), and AR & Reading Counts Quizzes.



Visit Details:

- School visits include two to four performances—may be split between two schools.
- Price: \$500 per day plus mileage if over 50 miles from Mt. Pleasant, SC, and hotel if necessary. (Travel and hotel may be split by schools if multiple schools are involved).
- Donna has a laptop and can bring a projector if necessary.
- Books may be pre-ordered and personalized - see order forms.

How To Schedule:

1. Coordinate with other classes (or schools or libraries), and decide what day works best.
2. Contact author directly to schedule date, time and details.
Donna Rathmell, DonnaRathmell@bellsouth.net
3. Send letter home to parents announcing the author visit and offering them the opportunity to order autographed books for their children. (Form letter enclosed!)
4. Preorder books and coordinate book sales with author.

Dear Parents,

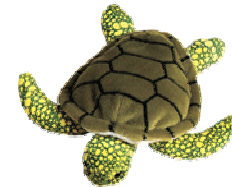
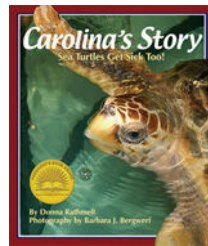
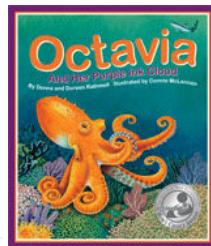
We are excited to announce that award-winning children’s author Donna Rathmell (*Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud* and *Carolina’s Story: Sea Turtles Get Sick Too!*) will be visiting our school on _____ to meet our students, talk about her book and lead the classroom(s) in fun, educational discussions and activities! To purchase a copy of either book so that your child can receive an autograph and remember this special day, please fill out and return the attached order form by _____.

Best wishes, _____

**Yes! I would like to help my child remember
Donna’s school visit!**

Name of Child: _____

Name of Teacher: _____



Title		Retail Price	School Fair Price	Quantity	Total
<i>Octavia and Her Purple Ink Cloud</i>	Hardcover	\$15.95			
<i>Carolina’s Story</i>	Hardcover	\$15.95			
	Paperback	\$8.95			
Plush 12” Shark		\$7.75			
Plush 10” Octopus, Tie Dyed		\$6.00			
Plush 8” Green Sea Turtle		\$7.95			

Please make checks payable to (if applicable):

SUBTOTAL
SALES TAX _____%
TOTAL

Parent Name: _____ Parent Signature: _____