

KAMILALA: A creative project for social inclusion open to languages and cultures

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FIGURE 1

A butai (kamishibai box), in which the storyteller inserts and removes boards as he exposes the narrative.

FIGURE 2

Multilingual Kamishibai Competition and the dimension of social responsibility.

The growing linguistic and cultural plurality in schools underlines the need for innovative, integrative and flexible pedagogical approaches and practices aimed at developing plurilingual and intercultural competences. It is therefore important that educational actors (institutions, teachers, trainers, ...) may get support to integrate a pedagogy of linguistic and cultural diversity in teaching practices. The research carried out within “KAMILALA: A creative project for social inclusion open to languages and cultures” (www.kamilala.org), comprising a group of researchers coming from 4 European countries, intends to support educational actors in this endeavour. Besides organising the Multilingual Kamishibai Competition, which offers 3 to 15-year-old children the opportunity to create a story according to the kamishibai¹ format using at least four languages (including the children's heritage languages), the partnership created various resources in different languages: a booklet to guide the development of a Multilingual Kamishibai project, a hybrid training course aimed at educational actors and a report to support the organisation of a Multilingual Kamishibai Competition. Since 2018, the Portuguese team has organised several

competitions at national level involving hundreds of students, their teachers and schools. In 2020, the international competition was won by a Portuguese participant. Within a perspective of articulation between education, research, and extension to the community, this research has given rise to several research projects (8 bachelor, 9 master, 1 doctoral and 1 post-doctoral) whose results have underlined the potential of this didactic resource to: foster social inclusion and respect for diversity in educational settings; develop several transversal competences; enhance children's motivation towards learning.

This resource is an output of the ongoing Erasmus+ project KAMILALA² (2019-1-FR01-KA201-062903) led by five partners, including the University of Aveiro.

[1] Kamishibai is a word of Japanese origin which literally means “paper theater”, kami (paper) and shibai (theater).

[2] KAMILALA – “A creative project for social inclusion open to languages and cultures” is a three-year Erasmus+ project (reference 2019-1-FR01-KA201-062903) between five institutions: DULALA in France (coordinator), The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece, the Autonomous region of Aosta Valley in Italy, the University of Paris 8 in France and the University of Aveiro in Portugal.

