



Join the network – host a competition!

Multilingual kamishibai: uncover stories and languages

Kamishibai (紙芝居 in Japanese) means « paper play ». This storytelling technique comes from Japan. Street storytellers would perform in front of an assembly of children using illustrations displayed through a wooden frame (butai). Each image reproduces an episode of the story while the corresponding text is read through the back of the frame.



Each year since 2015, DULALA Association organises a competition for educational settings (schools, libraries, social centres, community centres, etc.) that involve creating a multilingual kamishibai. Since September 2018, committed actors have joined KAMILALA network to promote this tool in their own territories across the globe.

What is the point of a Multilingual Kamishibai competition?

The number of children for whom the language used at school is not their home language has increased. Raising awareness on language diversity is a great way to enhance social harmony. How can educators work with languages they do not speak and make links with the language of the school? How can we foster education to multilingualism and to living in harmony from the earliest age? What tools can be used?

This competition gives educators and children the opportunity to engage into a creative and innovative project: producing a story that fits the format of a kamishibai, a magical device to tell (and listen to) stories, with a multilingual twist by using at least four languages.

A wonderful way to let children's cultures enter into the school. Parents from non-French-speaking backgrounds then see their language and culture as resources for the whole class.

A powerful teaching tool which enables communication between pupils, teachers and parents, and which helps the development of psycho-social skills:

Multilingual kamishibai is a playful device to tell stories and captivate the audience. It is a powerful tool for teachers to help children learn to read, write, express themselves with words and through



the arts. It enhances communication and cooperation between children while they are working on their collective production and once they have performed it in front of an audience. Multilingual kamishibai supports the development of skills that are essential for 21st century diverse schools: empathy, curiosity and open-mindedness.

We've noticed great changes in the children. They worked together and there was a great sense of solidarity. Communication with parents became easier. Each one's language was valued.

Why should I join Kamilala network?

This project aims to create an international community gathered around a common educational project that fosters inclusion, in order to meet the following challenges:

- Improve children's experience of learning to read and write in the language of the school whilst opening to the other languages of the class
- Promote multilingual education welcoming the diversity of languages and cultures
- Support cross-curricular projects
- Develop psycho-social skills that are essential to 21st century diverse school: empathy, curiosity, open-mindedness.

More details here: <https://kamilala.org/objectifs-kamilala-plurilingue/>

How shall I proceed?

DULALA will guide you through your first steps and provide you with all the resources to promote your competition within your territory.

If you would like to join Kamilala network, fill in the downloadable application form: <https://kamilala.org/devenez-partenaire/>

For more information, do not hesitate to contact us at: info@kamilala.org

