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Connected kind- Innovative "Art Vaccine" Puts the Power of Art and Play in Education: Pilot Program Showcases its benefits for elementary students in California

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ABSTRACT

CONNECTEDkind began as an antidote to the isolation and anxiety of lockdowns during the pandemic, and has become a brand new and highly effective tool in art education developed and piloted by Laura Belevica. CONNECTEDkind method is currently praised as the "revolution in education" by leading experts in Education for Sustainable Development and is the subject of a current scientific brain research for future education models in Japan.
This paper however will focus on the CONNECTEDkind philosophy and results from the implementation of the pilot program with 226 elementary school children during academic year 2021/2022 at Conejo Elementary in California. After two years of remote learning thanks to this method Laura Belevica witnessed the students showcasing growth in emotional learning skills, creativity, resilience and self-confidence.

Keywords: art education; imagination; revolution; shadow storytelling, Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)