

CONNECT

Inclusive open schooling
with engaging and
future-oriented science

GOOD PRACTICES

Description for the site:

Title: " In the steps of a lynx "

This good practice presents an open schooling education initiative for the reintroduction of the lynx, developed by the students of the 1st Vocational School of Arkalochori and the teacher Apostolakis Avraam from 1/10/2021 to 20/5/2022. The activities were attended by a scientist, Dr. Yasmi Stathi. The Regional Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education of Crete and the Museum of Natural History of Crete supported it. This practice was previously presented on the program platform at https://connect-eu.exus.co.uk/?attachment=68&document_type=folder&download_document_file=1&document_file=68. At the same time, there was support for the new teachers who participated in the program (through coaching and optimization of the material provided). The program participated with a poster at the presentation of European programs of the Regional Directorate of Crete (where school supplies were collected for the earthquake victims, who are also students of the school). Finally, there was participation in the CONNECT student conference. The results of the program, in addition to the platform, were announced on the school notice board, the school Facebook page and the teacher's personal blog.

Care: The students studied a real problem concerning the reintroduction of the lynx that has disappeared from the Greek area. The students who participated in the activities were 12, aged 17, from the 3rd grade of EPAL.

Know: Students used knowledge of food chains and food webs. Students practiced being able to describe the effects of ecological restoration on an ecosystem. They also learned to weigh evidence to support or refute a claim.

Do: At the end, the students, with the help of the teacher, prepared a map using the ArcGIS program showing the lynx population by country, as well as the project poster. They completed the activities as a group, supported by their families.

Conclusions on Open Schooling: The activity was integrated into the curriculum. It was innovative because the general knowledge they had about food chains was applied to a real problem. Open schooling can be useful for other teachers because it helps students learn experientially and develop metacognitive skills..

The change/innovation was supported by: School management school association/network Local government Other: Regional Directorate of Education, Natural History Museum



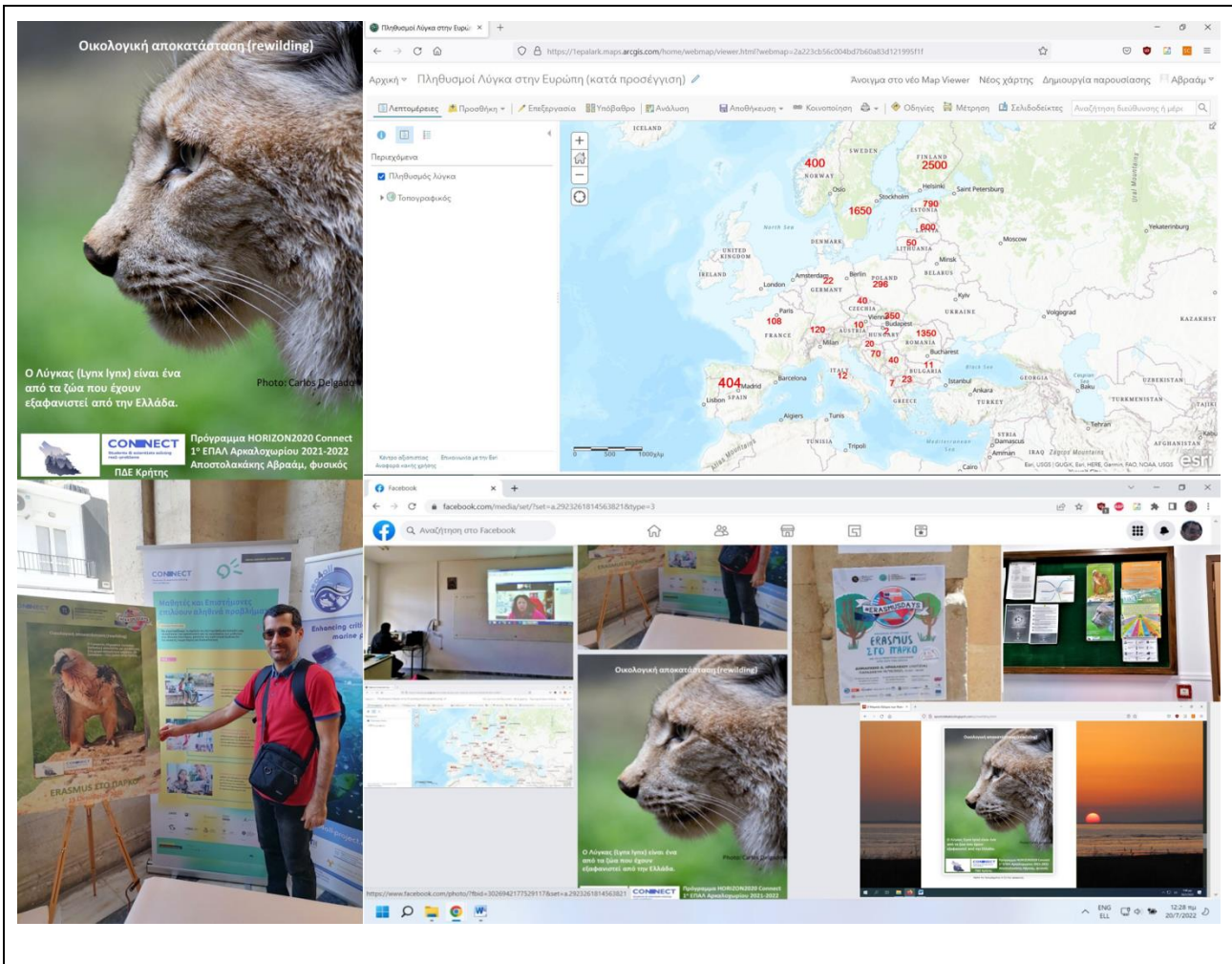
Student results: The students were happy with the app as they were able to apply their knowledge to solve a real problem. As an example, one student mentioned "it's nice to learn in a different way what we do in class".

This practice contributed to the increase of:

- [x] engaging families with sciences
- [x] involving girls in science
- [x] raising awareness among students about careers in the natural sciences

Please specify: Student participation was universal regardless of gender, performance, presence or absence of learning disabilities.

Select the most relevant photo related to your initiative (which will be public and published under an open license) to represent the practice.





ABOUT THE CONNECT PARTNER that supported the school

ORGANISATION	Regional Directorate of Primary and Secondary Education of Crete (RDE)
COUNTRY	Greece
Όνομα συνεργάτη	Georgios Panselinas
Implementation period	Starting date: 01/10/2021 Ending date: 20/05/2022

ABOUT THE TEACHERS PARTICIPATED

SCHOOLS	1 st Vocational School (EPAL) Archalohoriou
TEACHERS names (for Good Practices' Certificates)	Apostolakakis Avraam
Gender	Male
SUBJECT (Natural Sciences, Physics, Chemistry, Biology...)	Physics, Chemistry
How many subjects were used in open schooling?	8
Title of open school education resource used	Structured scenario (ecological restoration)
Type of learning scenario of science activities (structured or open scenario)	Structured scenario (ecological restoration)
Curriculum modules	Food chains, food webs

ABOUT THE STUDENTS PARTICIPATED

Class	Third grade
Age (average)	17 years old
Number of students participated that concluded the educational scenario	12
Number of students who completed the educational scenario of scientific activities	11

SCIENTISTS PARTICIPATED:

Name	Dr. Iasmi Stathi
Field	Biology





QUESTIONNAIRE

01. How have you (teachers) used open educational resources? Could you describe what you did in your lessons?

Student activities with scientists:

The students were informed by Dr. Yasmi Stathi about the lynx, the areas where it lives, its food relationships and the possibility of re-introduction to Greece.

Student activities with their families:

The students discussed with their families about the lynx and the application at school.

02. How have your students used the CONNECT resources? Do you have (or could describe) samples of better scientific actions (for our site/rewards)?

Any examples of what the students prepared?

The students with the help of the teacher prepared a map using the ArcGIS program depicting the lynx population by country and also the project poster.

Slide? Poster? Video?

(Add an image if possible)





Οικολογική αποκατάσταση (rewilding)



Ο Λύγκας (*Lynx lynx*) είναι ένα από τα ζώα που έχουν εξαφανιστεί από την Ελλάδα.

Photo: Carlos Delgado



CONNECT
Students & scientists solving
real-problems

ΠΔΕ Κρήτης

Πρόγραμμα HORIZON2020 Connect
1^ο ΕΠΑΛ Αρκαλοχωρίου 2021-2022
Αποστολακάκης Αβραάμ, φυσικός





03. How well did the science action learning scenario resources meet your needs?

Example related to the school curriculum:

Educational resources were complete. There was material in relation to food chains and food webs.

Students involvement:

Resources were adequate. The students with the help of the teacher prepared a map using the ArcGIS program depicting the lynx population by country and also the project poster.

Student interest and confidence in science:

Resources were adequate. Many examples were given in relation to ecological restoration and its results.

04. How easy or difficult it was to use the science action learning scenario resources?

Issues related to materials, procedures, pressure from the interaction with the curriculum:

Ήταν εύκολο διότι το υλικό ήταν απόλυτα δομημένο. Ειδικά ο οδηγός εκπαιδευτικού ήταν απόλυτα κατατοπιστικός και οδηγούσε στο αντίστοιχο υλικό ανά σελίδα ή διαφάνεια. Υπήρχε σύνδεση με το πρόγραμμα σπουδών στο κομμάτι με τα τροφικά πλέγματα και τις τροφικές αλυσίδες, κάτι που διδάσκεται στο μάθημα της Βιολογίας.

05. What were the benefits of implementing the science action learning scenario for your students?

Describe the results of the students in their scientific actions related to:

KNOWLEDGE	They know about the need to reintroduce extinct animals and the application of food chains and food webs.
SKILLS	They can weigh evidence to support or refute a claim.
ATTITUDES	They support the need to protect animals and support the concept of biodiversity.

06. What have been the challenges of using educational science activity scenarios for your students?

Main challenges faced by students (Please select all that apply):

- Difficult...
- Long duration...
- Boring...
- Other (Please specify): The pandemic and the lack of physical presence at school for 2 months due to the earthquake





07. What activities worked well with the curriculum?

What helped the children achieve the learning objectives:

The knowledge of the concepts "food chain" and "food web" that they knew from the past from the Biology course.

08. What activities did not work well with the curriculum;

Anything that could be done differently or avoided:

There was no problem.

09. The school Principal's opinion about CONNECT:

It was a very interesting practice that highlighted our school.

10. Parents' opinion about CONNECT:

I liked that my own child was able to impart knowledge to the other children with things he found at home.

Submission:

1. Please save the file in the following format: **YEAR MONTH DATE COUNTRY SCHOOL** (e.g. 20220326GR1stPrimarySchoolHeraklion. docx)
2. Please send this form to CONNECT Panel: <https://tinyurl.com/Connectbestpractices2022>

