

Aims of a Pestalozzi Education

Advanced (Classes 11-12)
Teacher Training



Overview of Pestalozzi's Educational Aims (A Pestalozzi Approach)

Instructions to participants:

- Discuss what you consider to be the most important aims of education
- Discuss what the major aims of the education provided at your school are
- Discuss any aims of a Pestalozzi education you know of

Version 1

The facilitator gives each group the 24 'Aims of a Pestalozzi Education' cards, cut up and shuffled. The facilitator encourages participants to discuss and debate during each of the activities.

Materials Needed

A single-sided copy of each sheet of the 'Aims of a Pestalozzi Education', cut up (as cards) and shuffled together for each group of four participants

Instructions to participants:

- Sort the cards into three categories of aims. (NB: This may be done by giving the groups the titles of the three categories or by allowing groups to choose their own three titles). The groupings you choose need not necessarily strictly follow those given here, and there may be some overlap with cards which could be grouped under more than one title – this is open to discussion
- Come up with a title for each category (if the titles given here have not been provided)
- Prioritise the cards in each category according to a diamond pattern – most to least important (*NB: It is important to tell the participants that, although described as a 'diamond pattern', the cards do not have to be formed into a diamond shape – there may, for example, be 6 equally important approaches at the top followed by two in the row below. It is also important to tell the participants that there are no right or wrong answers.*)
- Choose a spokesperson to present your choice of titles (if they have not been provided), your choice as to which cards go into which category and your diamond patterns to the rest of the participants . The spokesperson describes the order chosen and explains why the group has chosen that order



Aims of a Pestalozzi Education Version 1 Continued & Version 2

The groups discuss with each other the titles they have chosen for each category and compare the diamond shapes created by each group.

Each group now takes the top three cards from each category and prioritises these in a diamond pattern. Each group justifies its choices to the other groups.

Version 2

The facilitator divides the participants into three groups and gives each group a different set of 8 cards (cut up, shuffled and without the title) according to the categories given here. Each group comes up with an appropriate title for the category it has.

Each group prioritises the cards according to a diamond shape – most to least important.

Each group chooses a spokesperson to summarise the information it has and to describe it to the other groups.

Versions 1 and 2

End with a general discussion about Pestalozzi's aims.
Instructions to Students:

- Discuss how similar Pestalozzi's aims are to the aims you thought of at the beginning of the session
- Discuss how similar they are to the aims found in the education provided by your schools
- Discuss how relevant Pestalozzi's aims are to education today
- Discuss any important aims you would like to see added to those of Pestalozzi
- Discuss if the categories given here best reflect Pestalozzi's key aims. If you do not think so, provide your own titles

Materials Needed

Version 2: One single-sided copy of each sheet of the 'Aims of a Pestalozzi Education', cut up as above, but keeping the three categories separate (*NB: The titles should not be given with the cards*)





Aims of a Pestalozzi Education Version 1 Continued

Resources

Aims of a Pestalozzi Education To Develop Human Powers and Qualities

<p>To create well-balanced, moral individuals by ensuring that head, heart and hands (the natural powers innate in all humans) are equally and harmoniously developed and by strengthening the 'general power' or superior power of love</p>	<p>To enable people to recognise and act on the voice of God (the moral inner voice of love) and so to understand the truth and live a life lived according to the truth</p>
<p>To empower, ennoble, and improve the well being of, every individual</p>	<p>To help humans overcome their selfish desires (their animal or lower nature) and attain to their moral or spiritual nature, thus being restored to their natural goodness</p>
<p>To give humans dignity and full humanity (benevolence)</p>	<p>To empower, ennoble, and improve the well being of, every individual</p>
<p>To help people fully understand all aspects of something or all sides of an argument, and to be attentive, observant and rational</p>	<p>To help individuals gain independence of character, and be able to make well thought out, independent judgements rather than be led by others and blindly follow others</p>



Aims of a Pestalozzi Education Version 1 Continued

Resources

Aims of a Pestalozzi Education To Help People to Help Themselves

To develop each individual's own abilities and uniqueness and to help each to become self-disciplined and fully independent	To give people the ability to help themselves so that they are able to improve their own lives with their own strengths
To help people to become skilled in a particular field, employable and able to earn their own living	To encourage people to save from an early age, teaching the value of thrift
To help people to apply themselves to their work and to be happy with it, whatever it may be	To prepare the individual, with a relevant education, for the life he or she is most likely to lead, including preparing people to live within their means
To help people fully understand all aspects of something or all sides of an argument, and to be attentive, observant and rational	To teach the individual to look after and properly manage the things he or she is most likely to have as an adult and how to use these things for his or her own good



Aims of a Pestalozzi Education Version 1 Continued

Resources

Aims of a Pestalozzi Education To Reform Society and the World

To cause people to have the humane and unselfish qualities needed to make society work	To help the individual develop the powers necessary to be a dutiful and efficient member of his or her family and society
To create moral individuals who have the practical ability to take action, using what they have in order to help themselves and others	To create moral individuals who have the desire to put the needs of others before their own needs
To create good and responsible citizens	To prepare the individual, with a relevant education, for the life he or she is most likely to lead, including preparing people to live within their means
To create truly liberal and democratic societies	To regenerate nations and bring peace and security to the world