Circles (7) - A Famous Person's Circles

Intermediate (Classes 7-10)

Foundation House/ Elementary (Classes 5-7)

Becoming Good Citizens
The Circles We Live In
Being a Good Citizen
(Pestalozzi Approach)

Each participant chooses to research an individual he or she admires (someone who is no longer alive) who has served his or her community in some way. Participants do their own research on this individual, using the Internet, the library and any other information resources available. Before the participants gather the information, the facilitator tells them what to do with it. *(NB: It is important that the participant know what they are to do with the information they collect in order that they know what sort of information they should be looking for.)*

Instructions to particpants

- Draw your chosen individual at the centre of a large piece of paper and draw the circles he or she lived and/or worked in around the picture, giving each circle a title
- Add the names of people / the groups of people he or she knew or did something for, or who did something for him or her in each different circle
- Beside the name of each person or group of people write what the chosen individual did for that person or group and/or what the various people did for the chosen individual

Materials Needed

- Access to the Internet, newspapers, a library and other sources of information
- A sheet of blank paper and colouring pens for each student

All the participants discuss their chosen individuals, especially how they think the individuals' commitment came about. Is it as a result of the influence of others? The discussion should be connected to Pestalozzi's beliefs.

Pestalozzi wrote about the circles we live in, which include the family, neighbours, the local community, work or profession, the state and country and the circle of nature. Pestalozzi thought it is very important that we all become good citizens, helping each circle we live in to function well by helping each other as much as possible. He also believed that we learn by example, so if somebody does something helpful for us we are much more likely to do something helpful for someone else; if someone is kind to us we learn to be kind to others.

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