

Circles (3) - The Circles We Live In

Foundation House/ Elementary (Classes 5-7)
Intermediate (Classes 7-10)



The Circles We Live In (Pestalozzi's Approach)

Instructions to students:

The teacher asks the students what they think Pestalozzi meant by the 'circles' we live and move in, giving some ideas if necessary. The teacher elicits the different circles the students live and move in, for example family, neighbours, school, religious group, country and the natural world.

The teacher asks the students to think about and give examples of who is in each of the different circles they live in.

Instructions to Students:

- Draw a small picture of yourself in the middle of a sheet of paper. Draw circles around the picture, the first being the first circle you moved in (family) and gradually outwards to include village, school, country, the natural world and any other circles you may wish to include
- Write the names of people or things you are involved with in each circle (for example, 'Planting trees' in the 'Natural World' circle or 'My teacher Mr. Smith' in the 'School' circle.)

The students discuss what kinds of people come into each circle and what kind of things happen in each circle. They also discuss any further circles students may have thought of that they belong to.

Examples for students:

Materials Needed

Paper, colouring pens for each student





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Pestalozzi wrote about the circles we live in, saying that these include the family, neighbours, the local community, work or profession and the state and country.

He also wrote about the circle of nature, animate and inanimate.

