



The Pestalozzi Tree

Foundation House / Elementary (Classes 5-7)



Holistic Education of the Head, Heart and Hands (Pestalozzi's Approach)

The facilitator puts the small branches and twigs in a pot somewhere in the room.

Version 1

The facilitator puts a pile of cardboard leaves, colouring pens, some wool, scissors and a hole punch somewhere in the room where the participants can access them.

Instructions to participants:

Each of you can add leaves to the tree when you wish to. Make sure that what you wish to add is not already on the tree. Write an aspect of Pestalozzi's educational approach on one of the leaves. Write in as large handwriting as will fit on one leaf. Make your statement as clear and as brief as possible (for example 'Love is the most important thing' or for elementary level students simply 'Love'). Punch a hole in your leaf and hang it on the twig 'tree' using some wool.

Version 2

The facilitator puts piles of cardboard heads, hearts and hands, colouring pens, some wool, scissors and a hole punch somewhere in the room where the participants can access them.

When you do anything which fits in with a Pestalozzi approach and which helps other people or the natural world, think which you had to use the most in order to do it – your head, your heart or your hands (for example 'I helped my friend to understand a difficult sum' would be a head activity, 'I stopped my friend from feeling sad' would be a heart activity and 'I planted some seeds' would be a hands activity).

Choose a head, a heart or a hand, as appropriate, from the pile of cardboard shapes and write down what you did along with your name. Write in as large handwriting as will fit on one leaf. Make your statement as clear and as brief as possible. Punch a hole in your head, heart or hand and hang it on the twig 'tree' using some wool.

Materials Needed

- Small branches and twigs of a tree
- Version 1:
Cardboard in three or four different shades of green, cut into leaf-shapes
- Version 2:
Cardboard in three different colours cut into the shapes of heads, hearts and hands.
- Colouring pens, wool, scissors and a hole punch

