



Extension Role-Play

LEVEL	Intermediate to Advanced
AIMS (Aspect of Pestalozzi)	To reinforce the students' understanding of the biography of Pestalozzi: 'The Life of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi' or of 'Glimpses of Pestalozzi', both available on the website JHPestalozzi.org
FURTHER AIMS	To help students understand the text at a deeper level by enabling them to consider events in Pestalozzi's life from imagined viewpoints other than those of the characters in the text or of the reader
MATERIALS NEEDED	<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ Each student's copy of the biography of Pestalozzi: 'The Life of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi'➤ A copy of 'Glimpses of Pestalozzi'➤ Any props and costumes available

Having read 'The Life of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi' or an episode from 'Glimpses of Pestalozzi', the students develop a role-play out of any given episode by looking at it from another viewpoint; through the eyes of characters not actually found in the texts. Thus the chosen episode is explored in a new context.

The teacher and/or the students choose an episode or episodes in Pestalozzi's life to work on and go through what happened in the episode(s) in some detail. For example, in the section 'Education, Apprenticeship and Marriage' of 'The Life of Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi', there is an episode in which Pestalozzi was arrested and imprisoned because he was suspected of editing an insurgent pamphlet. The students could do a role-play in which Pestalozzi is interviewed by the police. Although this is not part of the text of the biography, Pestalozzi's ideas and this situation, as well as the likely reactions of the police, can be explored in this way. In another example – the students could role-play the meeting between Dr Charles Mayo and Pestalozzi, having read the letter from Dr Mayo describing Pestalozzi in 'Glimpses of Pestalozzi'.

Groups of students, the size of the groups varying according to the role-plays chosen, go straight into their roles, not planning dialogue or script in advance. The teacher goes around the groups listening in to the role-plays and, at the end, asks different 'characters' to describe how they felt in role.