

# 2

## A Pastoral Symphony: Pestalozzi, Froebel and Romanticism

---

### Chapter Outline

Introduction	35
Romanticism and the Enlightenment project	36
The influence of Immanuel Kant (1724–1804)	37
Johann Heinrich Pestalozzi (1746–1827): <i>Emile</i> , Kant and schooling	38
Johann Friedrich Froebel (1782–1852): German nationalism, nature and the kindergarten	41
Conclusion	47
Further reading	47

# 2

## A Pastoral Symphony: Pestalozzi, Froebel and Romanticism

---

### Reflection:

Pestalozzi was an educational visionary who, it seems, struggled to convey his vision to the parents of the children he taught. We live in an era that champions 'parent power', but do parents know what is best for their children's education?

### Reflection:

To what extent does the school curriculum accommodate head, hands and heart? Is this a meaningful idea?

### Reflection:

Can ideas transcend the circumstances of their formulation? How seriously should we take Froebel's nationalism in understanding his pedagogic vision and should the link between German nationalist thinkers and Nazism give us cause for concern?

## Education and Constructions of Childhood

### Reflection:

Do intellectuals have a moral duty to others that accompanies their knowledge and expertise? Do you have any thoughts on how this might appear in highly educated teachers?