



## The Bloomsbury Handbook to Friedrich Froebel

Edited by Tina Bruce, Yukiyo Nishida, Sacha Powell, Helge Wasmuth & Jane Whinnett

"A must for all serious Froebel scholars and for all early childhood professionals wanting to understand the origins of our values and beliefs about pedagogies with young children. The authors show how Froebel's teachings, deeply rooted in the 19th century, have been translated, transformed, and culturally contextualized over time and geographical space, yet, remain uniquely Froebelian and highly relevant today." *Mary Benson McMullen, Professor of Early Childhood Education, Indiana University, USA*

"A state of the art compendium of the historical and contemporary significance of Friedrich Froebel's principles and practice in early childhood education and beyond. Readers new to Froebel's work and influence will find a comprehensive introduction whilst familiar educators and scholars will enjoy rigorous debate and new encounters with the application and adaptation of Froebel's ideas across continents and cultures." *Alison Clark, Professor of Early Childhood Education, University of South-Eastern Norway, Norway*

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Friedrich Froebel (1782 – 1852), the inventor of kindergarten, was one of the most influential educational thinkers of the 19th century. This book showcases the cutting-edge work being undertaken around the world inspired by this pioneer of early childhood education and shows the many ways in which Froebel's work has been applied and extended. It presents a wealth of Froebelian expertise on topics including pedagogy and curriculum, history, architecture, neuroscience, peace and religious education and links Froebel's theories to other thinkers including John Dewey, Michel Foucault, Paulo Freire, Aili Helenius and Chen Heqin. It highlights what Froebel means today in a variety of settings around the world and includes contributions from academics and practitioners based in North and South America, Europe, Australasia, Africa and Asia.

**Tina Bruce CBE** is a Froebel trained teacher and Vice President of BAECE: Early Education. She is the author of *Friedrich Froebel: A Critical Introduction to Key Themes and Debates* (Bloomsbury, 2021).

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**Sacha Powell** is CEO of the Froebel Trust, UK, a charity that supports research and practice development in early childhood education based on Froebelian principles.

**Helge Wasmuth** is Professor of Early Childhood and Childhood Education at Mercy College, USA. He is co-author of *Finding Froebel: The Man who Invented Kindergarten* (Bloomsbury, 2023).

**Jane Whinnett MBE** is a former nursery headteacher, Froebel Trust Travelling Tutor and an Associate Tutor for University of Edinburgh, UK.

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