

Animals to Atlantis

A Cosmos Grow Adventure



Others often judge you by the little things
you do or don't do, say or don't say.

It may seem unimportant, but with just a little effort,
you can make a big difference in what others think
about you and how they treat you. Use these gifts to
be happier and more successful.

Animals at Atlantis

A. Main Focus:

Young children often want to do what comes naturally and easily and avoid the difficult or appropriate activities and behaviors. This story encourages them to learn and use the "Gifts" that though not always easy are necessary to be successful and happy in our real human world.

B. The Main Concepts:

The fable, *Animals at Atlantis*, is a story about missed opportunity. The animals had the opportunity to have the "Gifts" that made humans so successful. Unfortunately, they came up with many reasons not to accept the "Gifts."

The "Gifts" of Atlantis may seem fairly simple. They are the following: cooperation, politeness, language, grammar, cleanliness, and learning. These are all necessary for human society as we know it today. They contribute directly to your personal success and happiness.

You can look at conflicts between individuals and conflicts between countries. A lack of cooperation is always present.

In an environment that does not have a large degree of politeness, you will find much anger and hostility.

Most of the men and women who changed the world did so because of their use of language and grammar, either written or oral. We often are able to overcome many limitations if we are able to express ourselves well to others.

Sickness and disease were the constant companions of man until he discovered cleanliness. It is no accident that advanced ancient societies, from the Egyptians to the Greeks to the Mayan Indians, all valued cleanliness.

What greater gift could the creatures of Atlantis have given us than learning. Particularly within the last one hundred and fifty years, man's ability to learn new ways of doing things has made him the master of the world.

But just like the animals in our fable, any of us can allow our Stinky Thinking to cause us to refuse any or all of the greatest "Gifts."

C. Teach the Defining Terms to The Students

D. Listen to the Flip Book Story

E. Sample Dialogue with Students after Listening to the Story

According to the legend, Cosmos explains, that we animals missed out on a great opportunity. The creatures of Atlantis were going to give us the "Gifts" that have made you humans the rulers of the world. And what did our animal ancestors do? They let their Stinky Thinking get in the way of their future happiness and success.

In the story, the animals of the world are invited to Atlantis what? For a great conference.

The creatures of Atlantis explain that they have given what? Certain "gifts" to the human animals.

These same "gifts" are what has allowed the creatures of Atlantis to be very successful.

What does the leader of Atlantis explain? That they now realize that with these gifts, the human animals are becoming very successful and they fear that the humans may take over the world.

Therefore, they called this conference to offer these same "gifts" to who? To all of the other animals.

What are these gifts? These "gifts" are cooperation, politeness, language and grammar, cleanliness, and learning.

These may seem like obvious important things. But in our real human history many of these qualities were lacking until the last few hundred years.

What is cooperation? Cooperation is doing things together that will benefit the group

Do you think that as people we always use our gift of cooperation well? No, you can observe many children on the playground or in the classroom who do not use cooperation.

Do only children struggle to show cooperation? No, conflicts and arguing happen all the time with grownups as well.

Why did the Hyena think that cooperation among animals would never work? He said that if he helps others they would think he was weak.

Do you agree with the Hyena? Does using cooperation make you weak?

What type of thinking was the Hyena having when he spoke to the Atlantis leader? Stinky Thinking

What is politeness? Politeness is simply being nice to others and not always demanding to have it "your way".

Why do you think politeness is important? Without politeness, there would be even more arguments because everyone would always demand things to be the way they want it to be.

In the story, the seagull and pig were concerned that others would make fun of them if they were polite and used good grammar. What do you call that type of thinking? Stinky Thinking

Do you think that others would make fun of the animals if they were polite?

Refusing to be polite to others will probably result in what type of Not OK emotion? Anger or fear

What could the pig have told himself so that he would have been willing to learn to use good language and grammar skills? (Something like) For me to be successful I need to learn how to respect others and to have others understand me.

Why would language and grammar skills be important? Language and grammar are skills that allow us to communicate and to be understood.

Why would cleanliness be important? Without, cleanliness we would have more illness and diseases. We may not have clean water to drink or safe foods to eat.

Learning is a very important skill. Learning is a necessary quality for a happy and successful lifetime.

Is learning always fun? No, sometimes we see the process of learning; paying attention, studying, etc. as too hard or boring.

What would happened if people stopped learning new things? We would never have new technology or inventions. We would not know how to solve new problems or make changes. Etc.

Do you feel that all of these “gifts” are still important for us to have today?