

WHO IS ATLAS?



Atlas is a character from Greek Mythology. After he made the wrong “Gods” angry, he was forced to carry the “heavens” around on his shoulders. He is often depicted with a globe on his back, and that is the character you will see in the play “Palais Oops!” trying to pick up the world even though it keeps getting hotter.

Atlas may be a character in mythology, but in a way we are like Atlas nowadays. It is up to us to carry the Earth around, to make sure the Earth stays healthy and in the right place. If the Earth gets “too hot to handle” how can we manage to carry it around?

TOO HOT TO HANDLE:

In the play, the Atlas and Stagehands have a hard time handling and moving the earth because it has become too hot to hold. This is a metaphor for global warming and threats to our environment. In what ways is the world literally becoming hot? What are some of the other threats to the environment represented by the rising temperature?

ACTIVITY WE CARRY THE WORLD (ALL AGES)

Source: Resources to Explore and other Sources for this Kit.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

1-0-2B, 1-0-3A, 1-1-10, 2-4-11, 2-4-12, 2-4-13, 3-0-1A, 3-0-1C, 3-1-18, 4-0-1C, 4-1-15, 5-0-9E, 5-0-9F, 5-1-15, 5-4-02, 5-4-17, 5-4-18, 6-0-8G, 6-0-9E, 6-0-9F, 6-3-16, 7-0-9E, 7-0-9F, 8-0-9E, 8-4-17

General Learning Outcomes:

A1, B1, B2, B3, B5, C1, C2, C3, C4, C5, C6, C7, C8, D1, D2, D3, D5, E2, E3, E4

Pass a beach ball around the circle, either in order, or throwing it in random order. Every time someone catches the ball they have to name something being threatened by our changing environment. (It would help to list these things first. Consult some of the resources at the back of the kit if you run out of ideas.) After everyone has had a chance, change the direction and name things each person can do to help the environment. Make sure it is clear that very small changes can make a big difference. If everyone did things like turning the heat down a bit riding a bike and printing double sided instead of one sided we would see a huge difference.

