



Term 4, Lesson 3

Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool

Learning Objectives:

1. Predict potential turtle nesting sites around your local wetland, using the Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool;
2. Understand the role of technology in scientific data collection and the importance of digital tools and databases.



Photo credit: Dr. James Van Dyke

Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool

The Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool enables anyone to locate turtles in their local area. The tool uses advanced mapping techniques to predict potential nesting sites for turtles around wetlands.

The tool is powered by Google Maps and allows you to search an area using an address or point of interest.

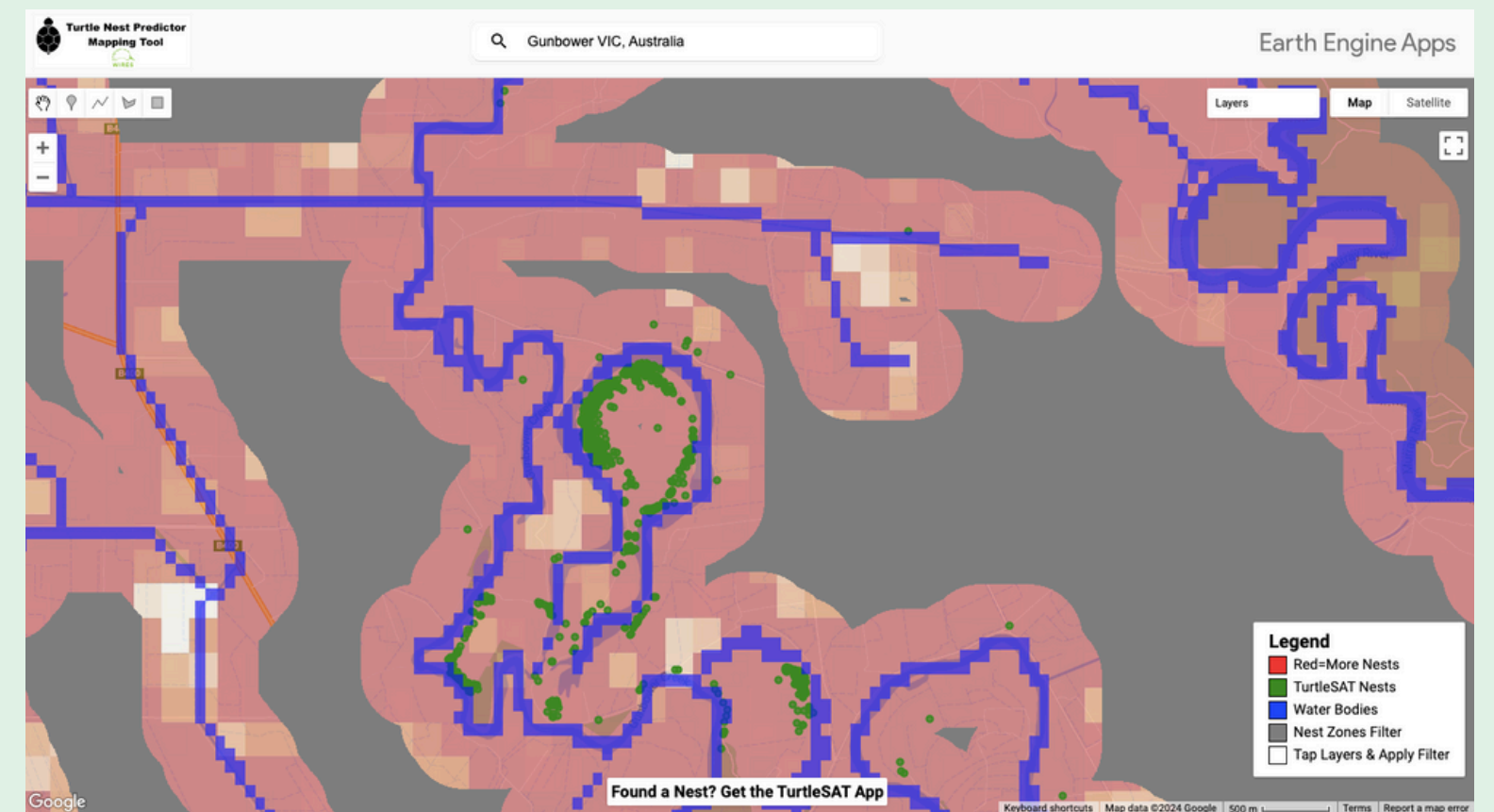
The map displays predictive hotspots that are colour-coded ranging from white to yellow, orange and red.



Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool

You can also,

- Add additional layers including:
 - Waterbodies (blue areas in the image).
 - Known nest locations recorded in TurtleSAT (green points in the image).
- Filter out areas where turtle nests are unlikely to be (grey areas in the image)



November is Turtle Month!

Turtle Month serves to raise awareness about the dangers turtles face during the breeding season and emphasises the need for conservation efforts to protect nesting sites.

Citizen scientists play a crucial role during Turtle Month by recording turtle sightings, monitoring nesting activity and participating in nest protection programs.



Classroom Activities

Activity 1 -

- Use the “Turtle Nest Predictor Mapping Tool” to predict potential nesting sites for turtles at your local wetland.



Classroom Activities

Activity 2 -

- As a class, brainstorm ideas for a Turtle Month logo.
- In small groups, design your logo. Use art supplies to create your logo on a poster or large paper.
- Present your design to the class and explain the symbolism behind your logo.



Classroom Activities

Activity 3 -



- Write a speech about Turtle Month.
- In your speech include:
 - the importance of freshwater turtle conservation efforts.
 - why November is marked as Turtle Month.
 - a “call to action” inviting your peers to become part of Turtle Patrols around your local wetland in November.

Classroom Activities

Activity 4 -

- Write a short blurb promoting Turtle Month.
- In your blurb include ways people can become involved in turtle conservation efforts in November (i.e. download TurtleSAT).
- The blurb should address your peers, their parents, guardians and the wider community.

