

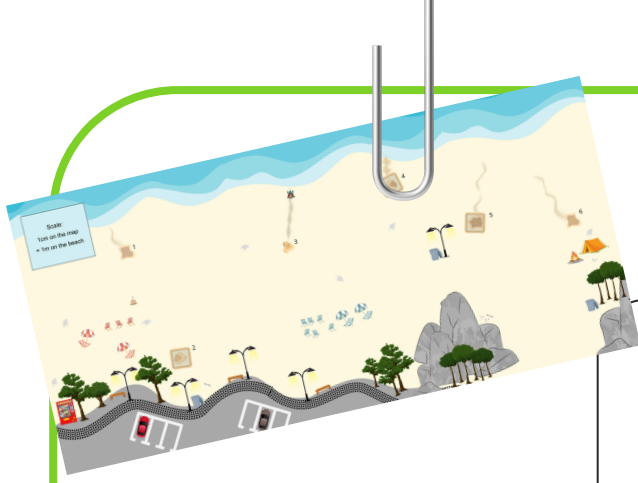
LEVEL 1

ENIGMATHICQ

ACTIVITY 5

Operation Safe Nest





Mission sheet 5: Operation safe nest

TOOLS

- The beach map
- The table on the mission sheet
- A ruler (to measure distances on the map)
- A calculator

A SAFE NEST?

On Zakynthos beach, Luna and many other turtles are ready to lay their eggs.

But not every nest is safe. Lights, distance from the sea, rubbish, and missing protection can put hatchlings in danger.

Your team will check the nests on the map and decide: Which are safe, which are risky, and what could be improved?

WHAT MAKES A NEST (UN)SAFE?



Distance from the sea: If a nest is too close to the water, waves or high tides can flood it and drown the eggs. But if it's too far, the hatchlings have a longer, more dangerous journey to the sea, risking exhaustion or predators. Mother turtles look for the "just right" distance. However, if a nest is not placed correctly, nothing can be done: eggs are very fragile and cannot be moved.


Artificial lights: Streetlights, hotels, or houses near the beach can confuse hatchlings. Instead of heading toward the moonlit horizon over the sea, they may crawl inland and die. A solution to help is to cover artificial lights nearby.

Protection mesh: A light, breathable mesh cover keeps predators like dogs, birds, and crabs away from the eggs without stopping the hatchlings from emerging.


Trash: Plastic pieces, nets, plastic bags, etc. are dangerous. Hatchlings can get tangled up and slowed down by trash items. Keeping the beach clean is essential to their safety.




TEAM ROLES

 Navigator : checks the map and identifies nest positions


Name: _____

 Recorder : fills in the table with risks and safety scores

Name: _____

 Calculator : adds up scores and compares nests

Name: _____

 Presenter : explains the team's choices

Name: _____

TRY!

Use your ruler and the Condition & Risk Table.

For each nest on the map:

- Check the distance with the lights, the sea, the trash, and if there is a protective mesh.
- Add up the points to find the safety score.
- Color the total according to the risk barometre.

(The lower the score, the safer the nest!)

THINK

What nest is the safest and why?

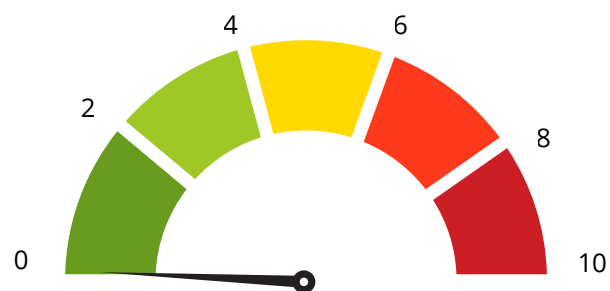
What nest is the least safe and why?

What actions can you imagine to make some nests safer?

REFLECT

One thing I discovered about nests...

One question I still have...



Mission sheet: Operation safe nest

Condition & Risk Table

	Condition	Risk change	Nest 1	Nest 2	Nest 3	Nest 4	Nest 5	Nest 6
Lights	≤ 5 m away	2						
	> 5 m >10 m away	1						
	>10 m away	0						
Distance	≤ 5 m from sea	2						
	> 5 m <15 m from sea	0						
	> 15 m from sea	2						
Protective mesh	No	3						
	Yes	0						
Trash	≤ 5 m away	3						
	> 5 m <10 m away	1						
Safety score for the nest:								