


Exercise 3: Explore a collection of curated information

 How can I print an exercise to PDF format?

Technical note

Software requirements

- ArcGIS Online

Use the latest version of Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari, or Microsoft Edge. Other web browsers may not display your maps and apps correctly.

For information about supported web browsers for ArcGIS Online, go to ArcGIS Online Help: Supported browsers (<https://links.esri.com/SupportedBrowsers>).

Introduction

The power of ArcGIS Instant Apps is that you can choose the way that an audience interacts with your map and data, allowing users to focus solely on what is important. A large part of this capability is tied to the app template that you choose for your project. You do not have to guess which app template will best align with your project purpose and intended audience. You can investigate the templates on the Instant Apps home page and even preview an example of an already created app. With these options at your fingertips, you can find an app template that aligns with your skills and the intended project layout and design.

Scenario

In this scenario, imagine that you are a secondary school science teacher. Your students have spent the past few weeks studying plate tectonics, focusing on earthquake and volcano activity. For the first phase of their research, they used an app that you created using the Instant Apps Sidebar template. This app provided students with the means to discover information about individual earthquakes in relation to other contextual information such as fault lines and tectonic plates.

For their final project, students will share the results of their earthquake and volcano research to the class. Again, you want to provide a focused environment, only containing the information that students need. This time, you want to create an app that also enables the students to modify and share content. You think that that Atlas template may be a good choice, but to confirm, you want to explore it and preview it with your data.

In this exercise, you will investigate an example app created with the Atlas template. You will also preview the app template using some of your own data to determine if it is the best choice for your project.

Note: The exercises in this course include View Result links. Click these links to confirm that your results match what is expected.

Estimated completion time in minutes: 20


Expand all steps ▼

Collapse all steps ▲

Step 1: Explore an example app

While some ArcGIS Instant Apps templates allow an audience to explore a map or find locations, other templates are meant to showcase curated content. The Atlas template not only showcases maps and layers but also includes tools that empower an audience to modify a map and share their results.

In this step, you will explore an example web app that has been created using the ArcGIS Instant Apps Atlas template.

- a** Sign in to ArcGIS Online, if necessary, using your course ArcGIS account (username ending in _geoapps).
- b** In the upper right of the home page, click the Apps button  and choose Instant Apps.
- c** From the template gallery, locate the Atlas template, and then click the arrow next to Atlas.
- d** In the Atlas window, read the description of the app template.

? What kind of actions can you perform with the Atlas template?

- Answer

You can measure distances and areas, view content in 2D or 3D, add layers, adjust transparency, view data as a table, and export an image.

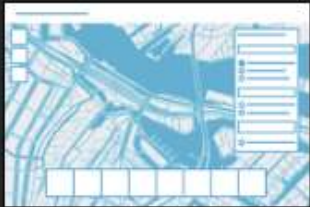
According to your project goals, you want your students to be able to modify and share content in a focused environment. So far, it seems like the Atlas app template may be a good choice, but you want to see an example of how it can be used.

There are three examples listed, and two of the examples have links to view the app, as seen in the following graphic.

Atlas

Description

Provide a group of content for viewers to explore. Measure distances or areas using either 2D or 3D views. Add layers, adjust transparency, view data as a table, and export an image.



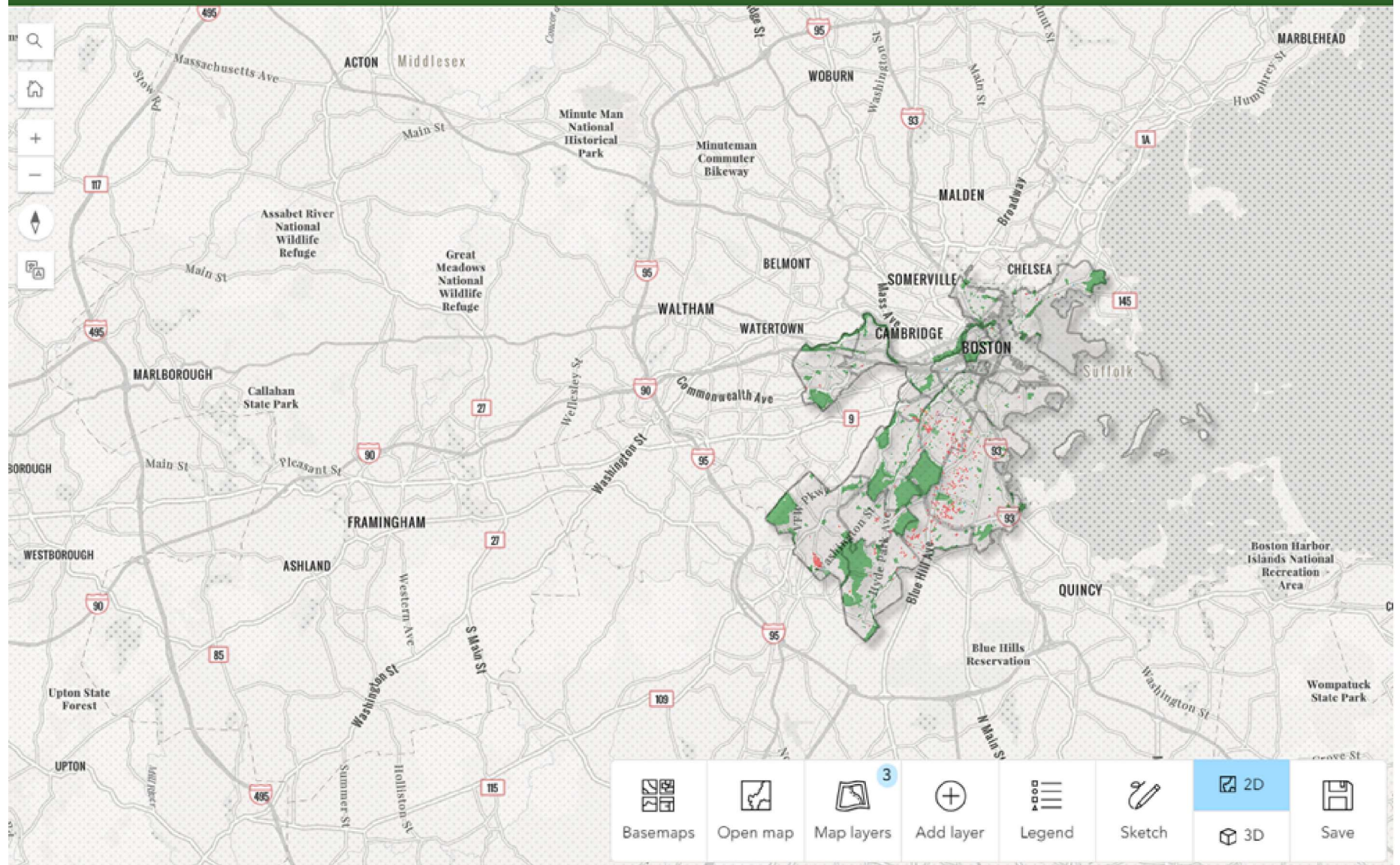
Examples:

- Present students with a group of topical content they can use to create a simple map
- Provide a set of layers that city residents can view and measure to understand local initiatives [View App](#)
- Share climate impact data that viewers can explore without an ArcGIS Online account [View App](#)

Close

- e In the Atlas window, in the second example, click the View App button to open the app focused on local initiatives.

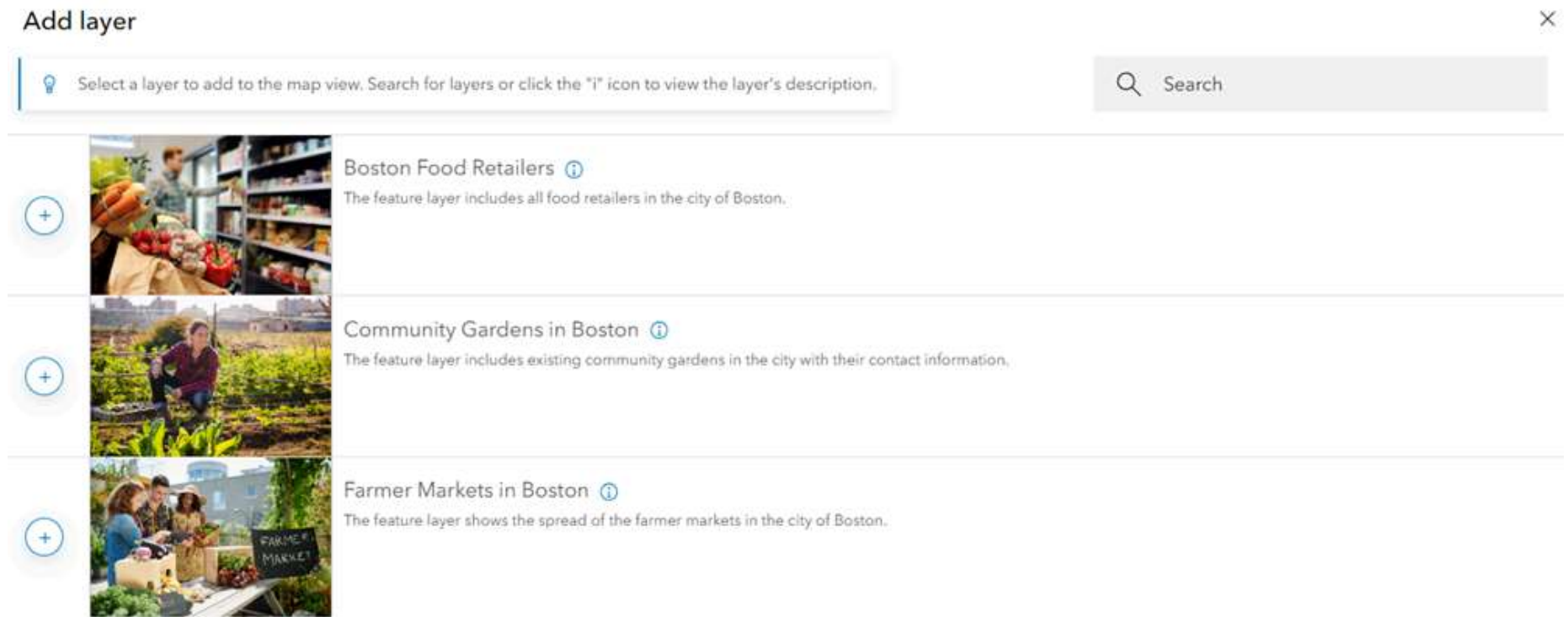
Community Garden Suitability Analysis | Open Space Zoning and Vacant Property Lots



Step 1e***: Explore an example app.

The Community Garden Suitability Analysis web app opens in a new tab, centered on Boston, Massachusetts, United States. On the left side of the app are navigation controls and a language switcher option. At the bottom of the app are lightweight tools to modify and save the map.

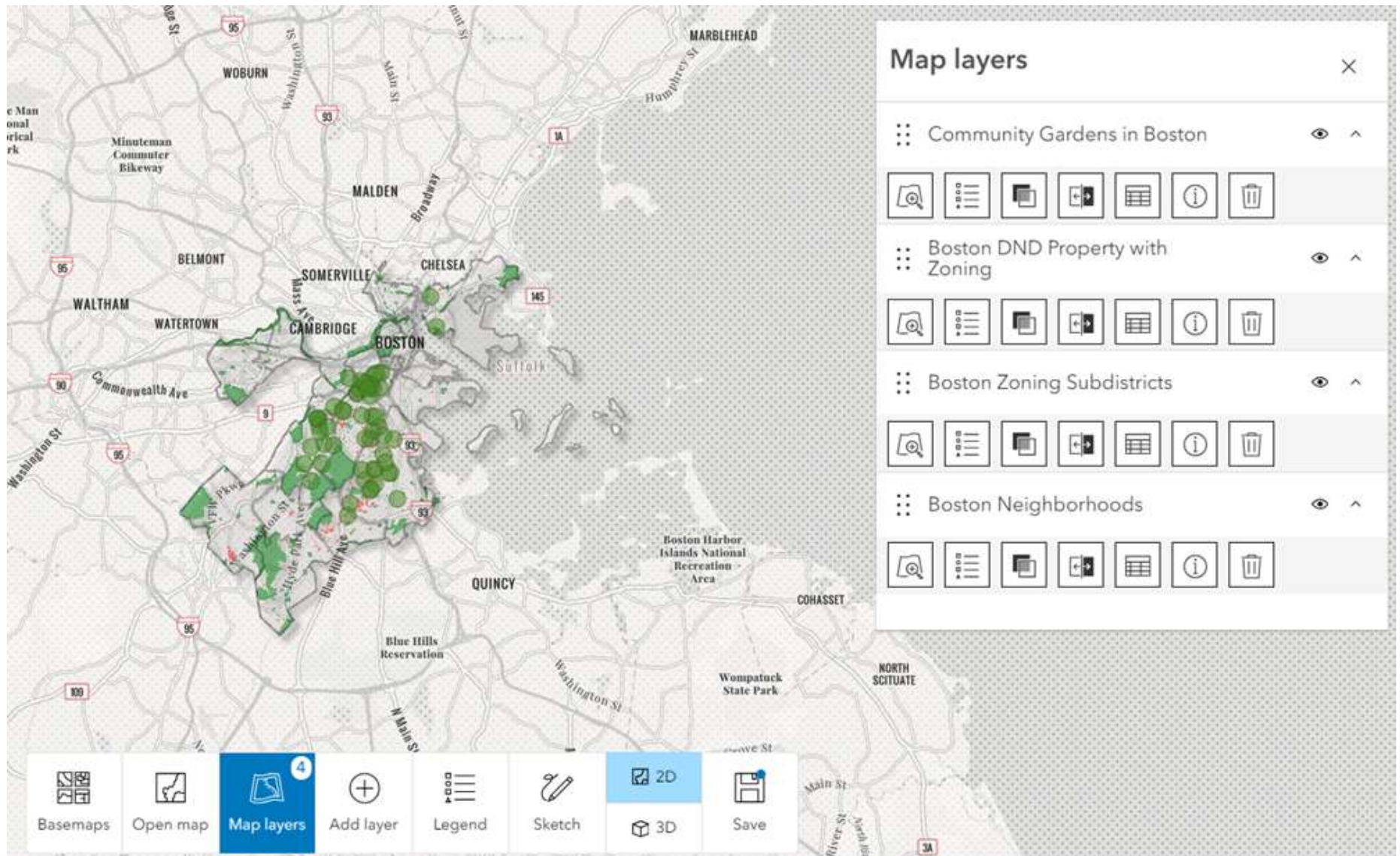
- f** At the bottom of the app, click Add Layer.



*Step 1f***: Explore an example app.*

You have the option of adding up to three additional layers to this map. These layers were chosen for this app by the author of the app and are meant to provide a focused experience. This way, a person using the app does not need to initiate a search in ArcGIS Online or another location for a layer. For your own project, you also want to provide a curated set of layers for your students to add if they choose.

- g** Next to the Community Gardens In Boston layer, click the Add button.
- h** Close the Add Layer window.
- i** At the bottom of the app, click Map Layers.



Step 1i***: Explore an example app.

A Map Layers window appears in the upper right of the app. It contains the original layers, as well as the community gardens layer that you just added. Each layer can be viewed in a variety of ways, such as changing visibility or displaying a table of layer features.

- j** In the Map Layers window, practice exploring the map layers by clicking the tools displayed under each layer.
- k** After you are finished, close the Community Garden Suitability Analysis web app.

- l** Return to the ArcGIS Instant Apps home page.
- m** Close the Atlas window.

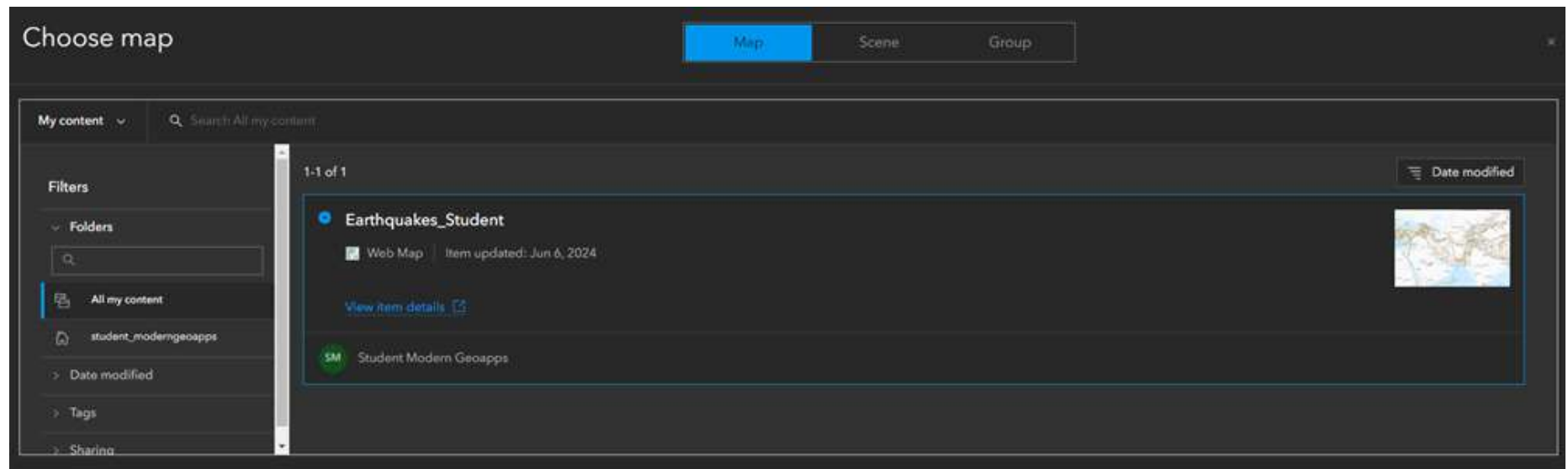
In this step, you explored an example web app created from the Atlas template. You discovered that the template could provide a curated set of options for your students. Next, you will explore the Atlas template using your own data.

- Step 2: Preview the app with your data

When deciding on an app template, you may want to preview how your data will appear in the app. While exploring examples of other apps are helpful, seeing the possibilities of your data within the template can help you make a more informed decision on whether it will work for your project.

In this step, you will preview a map that you intend to use for the student project in the Atlas template.

- a** At the top right of the ArcGIS Instant Apps home page, click Choose Map.



*Step 2a***: Preview the app with your data.*

The Choose Map window opens and lists any maps saved to My Content.

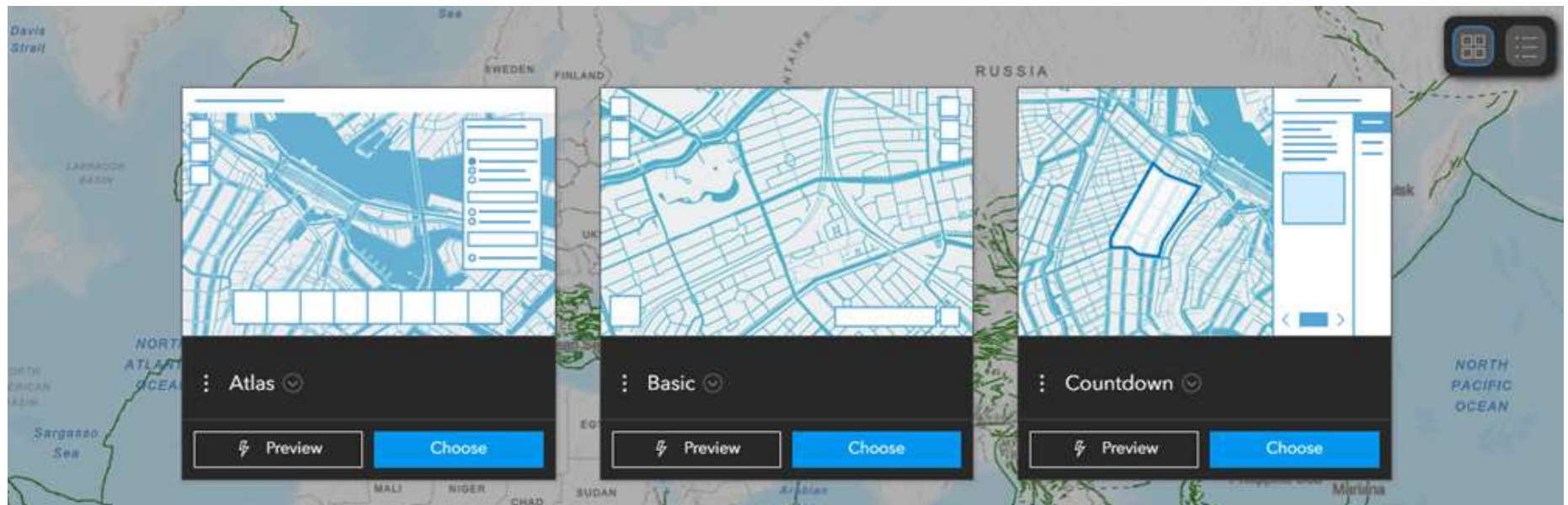
In this window, you can add a 2D map, a 3D scene, or a group. You will add a map from ArcGIS Online that you used in a previous assignment for your students. The map contains tectonic plate and fault line layers.

- b** In the upper left, click My Content and choose ArcGIS Online.
- c** In the Search field, type **global earthquakes owner:esrtrainingsvc**.



*Step 2c***: Preview the app with your data.*

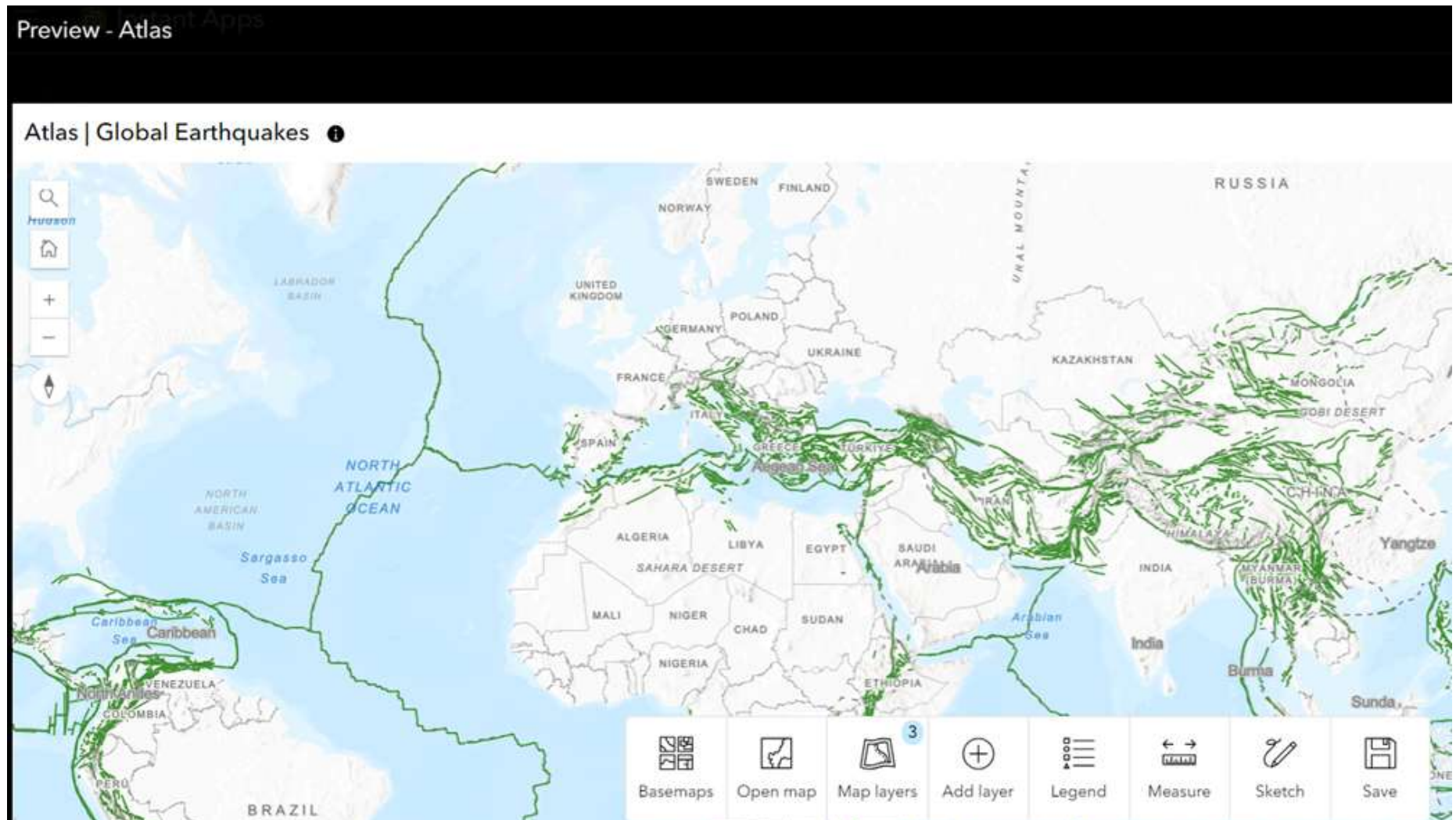
- d** Select Global Earthquakes, and then click Choose.



*Step 2d***: Preview the app with your data.*

On the Instant Apps home page, the gallery background displays the map that you added. Additionally, Instant Apps checked the data and configuration of the map and displays compatible app templates. Each app template that is compatible with your data now has a Preview option.

- e On the Atlas template card, click Preview.



Step 2e***: Preview the app with your data.

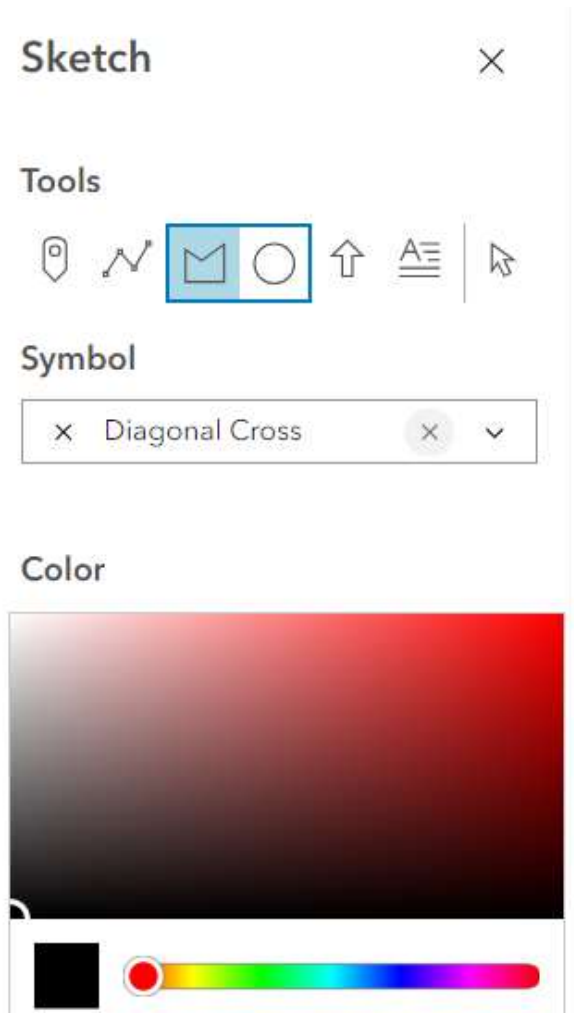
You now see a preview of what your map and data could look with the Atlas template. Because this view is only a preview, the tools and other settings have not yet been configured. For instance, if you look at Open Map or Add Layer, you will notice that there are several maps and

layers that may not be relevant to your particular project but are provided as examples. If you decide to use the Atlas template, you can curate a collection of maps and layers that your students can use in their research, such as volcanoes, earthquakes, and landforms.

For a list of key settings and capabilities within the Atlas template, see ArcGIS Instant Apps Help: Atlas (<https://links.esri.com/InstantAppsAtlas>).

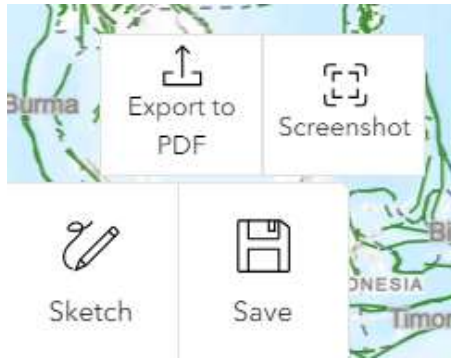
For their final project, students will share the results of their research to the class. This might include areas and features on the map to which they want to call attention. You notice that there is a Sketch tool, which will give them the flexibility to mark up their map.

- f** At the bottom of the app, click Sketch.
- g** In the Sketch window, under Tools, click the Polygon button.
- h** Under Symbol, click Solid and choose Diagonal Cross.



*Step 2h***: Preview the app with your data.*

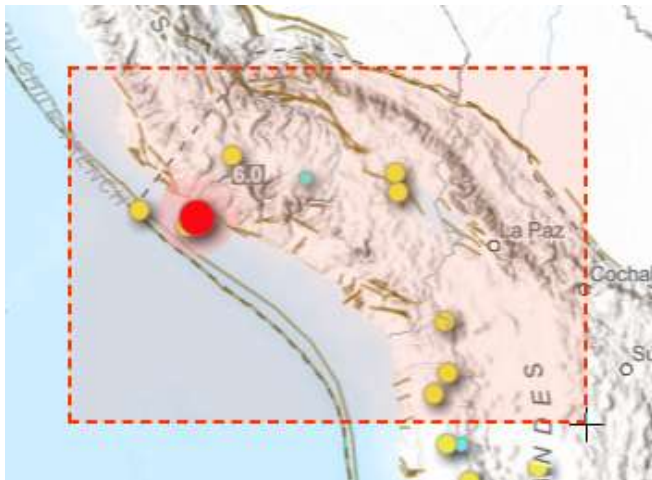
- i** On the map, sketch a polygon and double-click to finish it.
- j** At the bottom of the app, click Save.



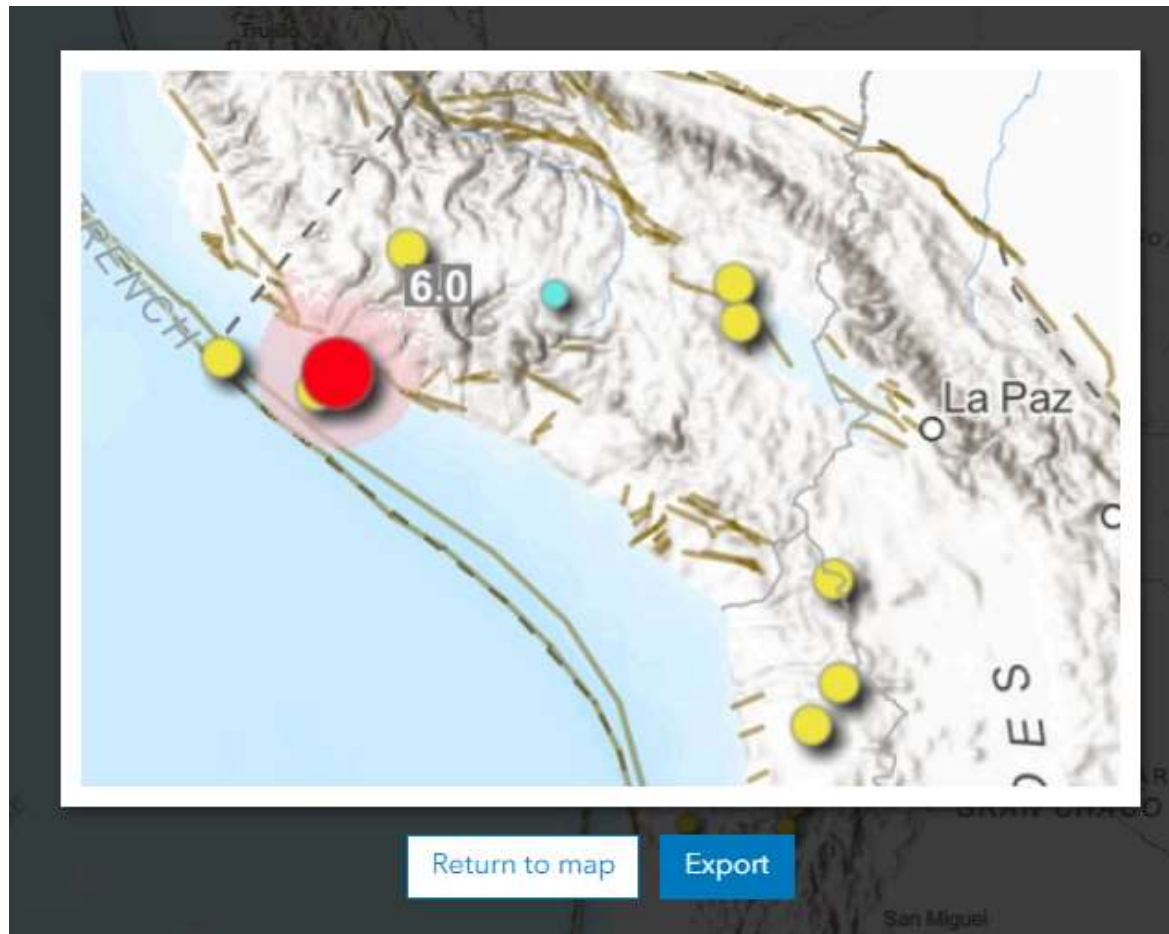
*Step 2j***: Preview the app with your data.*

In this preview, two options are configured: Export To PDF and Screenshot. When you configure your app, you will have additional options, including saving the map and creating a new web app.

- k** Click Export To PDF.
- l** In the Export To PDF window, click Set Map Area.
- m** Use your cursor to select any area on the map, like the one shown in the following graphic.



You are given the option to export the selected map area or to return to the map.



*Step 2m***: Preview the app with your data.*

- n Click Return To Map.

After previewing the Atlas template with your own data, you are confident that, with this template, you can provide a focused and flexible environment for your students to modify a map and share the results of their research.

You will end the exercise now, but if you wanted to continue, you could either choose this template and create your app, or go back to the Instant Apps home page and choose another template.

- o Close the preview and sign out of ArcGIS Online.

In this exercise, you investigated an example app made with the Atlas template. You also previewed the Atlas template using some of your own data. Based on your project requirements and your investigation of the Atlas template, you decided that it is the right template for your needs.

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