## **Activity Book**

## **Escapes into Nature**

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The Birds of the Marais Poitevin

In the wetlands of the Marais Poitevin, with its distinctive vegetation, there are more than 70 species of birds to discover.

## Long comment

The ornithological park of the Marais Poitevin is a nature reserve of 8 hectares criss-crossed by waterways covered in green vegetation. At the heart of this wild wetland you will find more than 70 species of birds of the Marais (eider duck, night heron, black-winged stilt, oystercatcher....) as well as domestic animals which have evolved over the centuries in the Poitou area (the Poitou donkey, the Mulassier draught horse, the Marans chickens, etc.).

Information panels situated along the paths of the reserve help you to recognise and learn about each of the animals and birds. In the shade of pollarded ash trees you can also learn about the trees and vegetation of the wetlands. More than 30 are listed with information about their various culinary and medicinal uses, or alternatively, how poisonous they may be. At the end of the visit a film shown on a large screen allows

you to fly over the magnificent landscape of the Marais Poitevin and to see the birds of the region in their native habitats.

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