

Fundación Cepsa celebrates World Wetlands Day in Campo de Gibraltar

- During the month of February, environmental education workshops are held in schools to highlight the value of the Madrevieja Environmental Station.
- For the seventh year in a row, 305 sixth graders from schools in Campo de Gibraltar will take part in this activity

Fundación Cepsa has celebrated World Wetlands Day in February with a program of visits to schools and virtual sessions to raise awareness of the environmental value of wetlands and, in particular, of the Madrevieja Environmental Station. A total of 305 sixth graders from Campo de Gibraltar have participated in this initiative.

World Wetlands Day has been held on February 2 since 1977 in commemoration of the signing of the Convention on Wetlands signed in Ramsar (Iran): It is the first treaty for the conservation and sustainable use of wetlands. First Cepsa and later Fundación Cepsa, have played a part in this celebration for the last seven years, running an environmental education program for children from schools in Campo de Gibraltar. Pupils participate in fun, educational workshops to learn about the importance of this type of natural spaces and the Madrevieja Environmental Station; the children are also invited to take part in a competition by submitting their drawings of the surroundings.

The María Reboloso School in Taraguilla (San Roque) was in charge of starting these days, which this year have been developed under the slogan *Water, wetlands and life* with the aim of drawing attention to the important role played by these ecosystems in the maintenance of biodiversity.

This year Covid19 has forced Fundación Cepsa to develop the environmental workshop in the classroom of the participating centers or virtually, without the students being able to visit the Madrevieja Environmental Station as usual in order to guarantee their safety during the health crisis.

Since 2014, over three thousand students from schools across the district have been given the chance to participate in educational activities held at the Madrevieja Environmental Station as part of these environmental workshops.

Madrevieja Environmental Station

In 2009, Cepsa decided to recover and restore this space as part of its policy on biodiversity, sustainability, commitment and respect for the environment, so as to promote nature research and also serve as a space for environmental education which is open to the public. Over ten years after the project started, it continues to grow in importance. It is now led by Fundación Cepsa and is the first of its kind in the province of Cádiz. The richness and diversity of its habitats have made the Madrevieja Environmental Station a true sanctuary for around 139 cataloged species of birds and 21 mammals.

Fundación Cepsa is a general interest, nonprofit entity whose aim is to carry out initiatives that serve the needs and priorities of the local communities where its founder, Compañía Española de Petróleos S.A. (Cepsa), conducts its activities. The areas of action for Fundación Cepsa are social, environmental and scientific-educational.

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