

# About vultures ...

by Emmanuel Brandolin



## Intoduction

An educational outing was organized by Ms. Marabese on March 10, 2020 in Pibeste nature reserve. The aim was to make us know our natural environment better, to make us feel how important it is for us while doing activities to get a John Muir Award. This outing was a real breath of fresh air and knowledge. Indeed, in addition to discovering a wonderful and protected landscape, nature as far as the eye could see, we also had the chance to discover a very interesting fauna, the vultures. My subject will be about them today. Where do they live? What do they eat? What their way of life? Etc...



## Where do they live ?

These vultures live in the Pibeste nature reserve, a vast old forest massif marked by several millennia of human activity. But the places where these magnificent vultures live are the cliffs, rock faces, stone citadels. Overlooking the void, the rock faces of Pibeste are the perfect representation of this rather special place. This mineral universe is home to flora and fauna such as vultures. The different vultures of Pibeste



High in the sky, flying with their large, rigid, wide wings, emerging from nowhere, a group of griffon vultures spin around the tops of the cliffs heated by the morning sun. They let themselves be carried away by the hot air. When they prowl, there is a good reason for it. During the outing, we were told that, one day, thanks to their large eyes which are on each side of the head, they perceived an inert body of an injured bighorn sheep. They were not the only ones to have spotted this interesting meal. Indeed, an Egyptian vulture was waiting for his turn. He just settled for leftovers and finished cleaning up the body.



### **Vultures Food**

The “shooter-digger” vultures feed on the viscera and muscles. The griffon vulture is the best known representative.

The “ripping” vultures love the most resistant parts (skin, tendons, cartilage). The monk vulture is one of them.

The "pecking" vultures collect the last remaining pieces from the carcasses. The Egyptian vulture is the best example.



### **Sentence I have written on my drawing**

Beautiful, cultural, intense, peaceful, this outing was nice, amazing, it made many people smile. This sun, touching our skin, touching these large rocks sheltering the vultures. The vultures, flying

in the sky, passing over our heads, spreading their large wings, magnificent raptors, so strange and at the same time so familiar.

### **If I were a vulture**

If I were a vulture, I would fly, on and on without stopping

I would touch these mountains

I would spread my wings in front of this sun

warming my body while enjoying the view

I would observe the behavior of my victims and then enjoy their flesh

I would crisscross, I would use my reputation as a scavenger to frighten humans

I would prick on the heads of people who disturb me

I would have children, I would teach them how to fly, how to kill and eat

If I were a vulture, that's what I would do.