

## **World Wetlands Day 2015**

Minjiang Estuary is an important site for over 50,000 migratory waterbirds along the East-Asian Australasian Flyway. However, many local people do not realize the importance of the precious wetland. On 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2015, 26 students and teachers from two local primary schools near to Minjiang Estuary visited the reserve to learn and celebrate the World Wetlands Day.

The event was organized by the Management Bureau of Minjiang Estuary National Nature Reserve with technical support from WWF-Hong Kong in the Wetland Museum. After the introduction of the Ramsar Convention and World Wetlands Day, students were given a challenge to find out the information of the globally threatened species, Chinese Crested Tern, Spoon-billed Sandpiper and Black-faced Spoonbill, and other wildlife recorded in Minjiang Estuary through visiting the Museum in pairs. (Fig. 1).

After that, the students experienced an interactive bird migration game to learn about the migration journey of Black-faced Spoonbill (**Fig. 2**). The students role-played as migrating Black-faced Spoonbills and encountered different fates when they "arrived" stop-over countries such as Japan and mainland China. The students enjoyed the game very much (**Fig. 3**) and they could recall different factors affecting migratory birds. The visit reached the climax when the students went birdwatching and look for different wetland birds in the nature reserve. They were excited and identified many different species. (**Fig. 4**).



**Fig. 1** Students worked in pairs to find out information of the globally endangered species in the Wetland Museum



**Fig. 2** Students learnt about bird migration through playing game



**Fig. 3** The group at the back was happy as they encountered a good fate during the journey of migration.



**Fig. 4** Students were excited for birdwatching