**∬**or 7 years old and older

Duration

# THE LITTLE DETECTIVE'S

# **INVESTIGATION BOOK**



# In the footsteps of IERRE DE OURDEILLE

Walk in the footsteps of Pierre de Bourdeille, an important lord in the Périgord ! Enigmas - charades - games - rebus

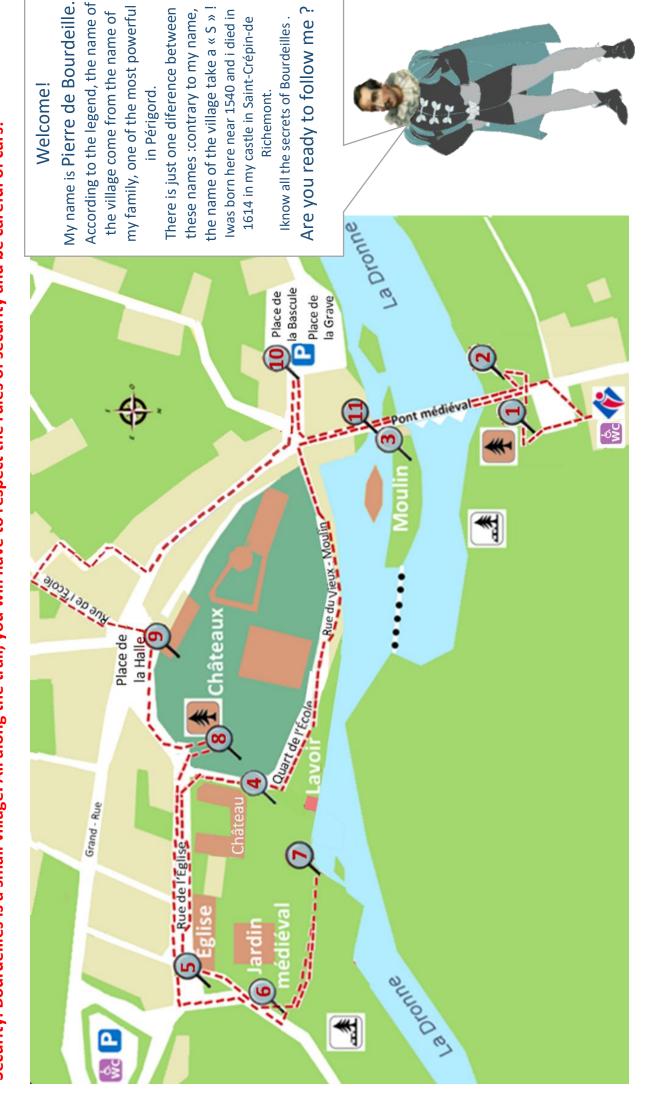
This book belongs to :

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# Purpose of the game:

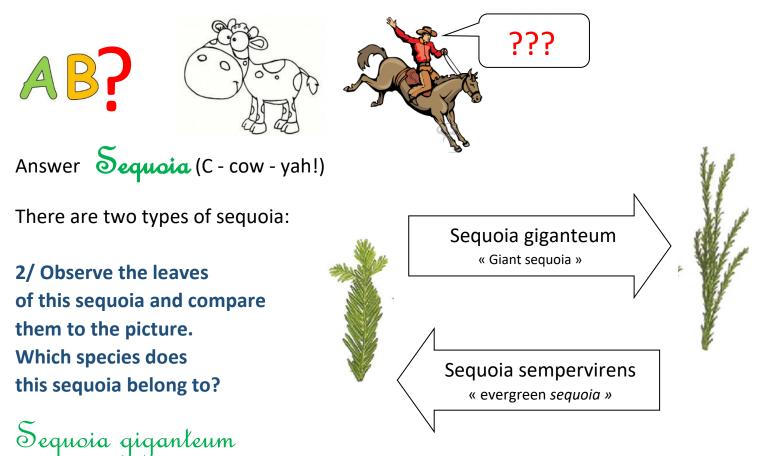
With the help of the map, follow the trail of de Pierre de Bourdeille and win the 11 events of the trail. A lexicon at the end of the book will help you with complicated words.

Security: Bourdeilles is a small village. All along the trail, you will have to respect the rules of security and be careful of cars! At the end of the game, go to the tourist Office or download the answers on our website: www.perigord-dronne-belle.fr



**Pour adventure starts here, next to the tourist office.** On this little place there is a big tree. This tree is very special: It is very old and, it is in some way, the oldest inhabitant of the village!

1/ To discover the tree's name, decipher the rebus below:



There used to be two sequoias here, but a terrible storm uprooted one of them. To console themselves, the inhabitants of Bourdeilles (**Bourdeillais\***) replanted one.

Go under the bridge to the step number 2 and enjoy the view.



Bourdeilles exists since the Middle ages. Back in those times, there were a lot of wars and the village was **fortified\*.** As you can see, the castles are built on high ground,

- 3/ Why did they build the castles up high?
- 1) To see the enemy arriving from far away
- 2) To be so high and far that the enemy's arrows wouldn't reach them
- 3) So that the enemy would be tired once they arrived at the entrance of the castle

The river plays an interesting part too. The bridge you can see here is nothing like the one they had in the Middle Ages. In the 14<sup>th</sup> century it was a drawbridge!

4/ What advantage did this drawbridge have in the Middle Ages?

The Frankridge can be removed to lock the front

## door of the castle: the enemies could not cross!

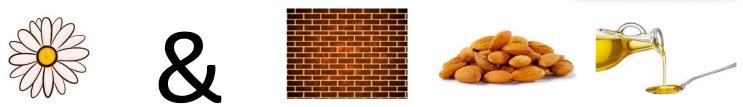
Sadly, in 1735, a flood destroyed part of the bridge. It had to be rebuilt and to reinforce it, it was equipped with **cutwaters**\*.

Cross half the bridge and look at the water mill \*. It's called the « boat mill » because of its particular shape and

because it is situated in the middle of the river.

Nowadays it's a house, but the mill was used until the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

5/ What did they make at the mill? Decipher the rebus below to discover it.



Answer : Floor and walnuts oil (flower - & - wall - nuts - oil)

Go to the end of the bridge and turn left, in the Vieux Moulin street. In this very old street, we can still see the traditional millstones. Historically, this street allowed the inhabitants to go to the washhouse\*. This washhouse was a public place and, in that time, it was women who did the laundry. It was a very hard job, reserved to women. To make their work more agreeable, they would gather here together to keep each other company.

6/ These woman had a special name: "les lavandières" in French, that means: Decipher the rebus below to discover their name in English.













#### Go to the Castle and observe the cliff.

7/ Track down the details! Find these strange sculptures made by a contemporary\* artist.





Continue toward the church.

This church dates from the 13th century and has had many ordeals. 8/ In the 17<sup>th</sup> century, it was used as: (circle the right answer)

A hospital for lepers

A stable

A restaurant for soldiers

This church has a special name. 9/ Decrypt this rebus to discover it:





## Answer: Saint Peter in chains

This name commemorate **the deliverance of Saint Peter\*** when Peter was liberated from Herod's prison by an angel. This story is depicted on a stained-glass window in the church.

# Go round the church and turn left to discover the medieval garden called the « presbytery's\* garden ».

This is a **contemporary**\*garden. Created according to a text from the 9th century: *The Capitulare de Villis*. In this garden you will only find plants that existed in the Middle Ages, between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 15<sup>th</sup> centuries.

Beware: some plants could be toxic, don't touch them!

The garden is divided into squares, depending on the use of the plants.

#### 10/ Link the squares of the garden to what grows in them:

Vegetable garden or Hortus

Aromatic plants or Herbularius

Utility plants

Mary's Garden

Cereals

Orchad or Viridarium

Flowers to decorate the church
Cereals for men and animals
Fruits
Medicinal plants (that heal)
Vegetables
Tinctorial\* and textile plants\*

#### **Follow your map and continue on your left up to the park.**

From here you have a superb view on the whole village. Next to the castles, there is a really nice house. We call it the castle but it's more like a **manor**\*.

It dates from the 15<sup>th</sup> century and has some castle features with its little towers called turrets.



11/ How many of them can you count?

### 3

12/ This mansion did not belong to a Lord but to a King's officer. Decipher the rebus bellow to discover the name given to this officer in Occitan\*.



Answer : Senechal

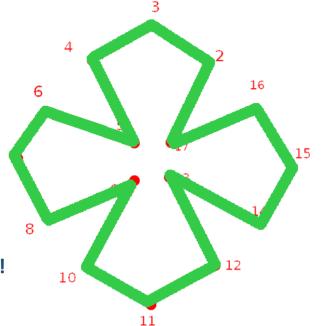
13/ Link the dots to find the symbol of Occitania\*.

14/ Walk back to the church and open your eyes! You may find this symbol... Where?

# In the street, in front of the church!

This is the Occitan cross and you can see it all along the trail.

15/Where? On street signs



#### Keep walking up to the castle, I mean castles!

There are two of them very different form each other.

16/ But who is who?

8

#### The fortified castle. (14<sup>th</sup> century)

It went through the Middle Ages and a few wars! With its dungeon, its machicolations\* and not many windows, it isn't very comfortable. Its courtyard\*, surrounded by ramparts, were used as refuge for the habitants.

#### The Renaissance type castle (16<sup>th</sup> century).

The Renaissance is a rather calm period in the history of France.

So castles are pierced open with big windows to let the light through. Gardens are developed. It is built to look nice and to be comfortable.



The castle offers many activities for children. Ask at the front desk.



The fortified castle

The Renaissance type castle

17/ On my side, I was chosen to run an important abbey nearby. To discover the name of the abbey and the village, decrypt this charade:

My first is the outer covering of grain so good for the health that you can find it in your breakfast cereals.

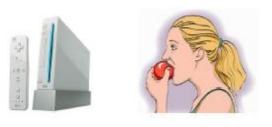
My second is a cat that is always annoying a mouse called Jerry.

Answer: **Brantôme** (Bran – Tom)

Walk toward the courtyard of castle, near the big tree. It's a ginkgo biloba.

17/ True or False: It is the oldest species of tree. Even older than the dinosaurs!

9 Walk out of the castles courtyard and go to the "place de la halle".
 Halle is the French word to say covered market. This square changed a lot!
 18/ What did they sell in this market? To discover it, decipher the rebus below:



In 1889, the medieval covered market was replaced by a modern one.

Unfortunately, on Friday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 1985, this square was on the front page of the local newspaper.



#### 19/ What happened? Among the three propositions below, find the right one!

1) The fireworks stocked in the covered market exploded and the market was

destroyed.

#### 2) One of the castle walls crumbled down and destroyed the market.

3) A piece of meteorite fell from the sky and destroyed the covered market.

The covered market was destroyed whereas the building used as the Town House stayed intact.

20/ By the way, the municipal building kept one of its features: the municipal bell! Find it!

Turn left, to the "Rue des écoles". This type of little streets are locally called cantons\*.

Go down the main street and turn left before the bridge, in direction of the 'place de la bascule'. At the centre of the place there is a little building, built in the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

21/ What was this building used for?

I was a public scale called Weight House.





#### Walk in the direction of the bridge and stop in front of the hostel.



This is the coat of arms\* of Bourdeilles. In heraldry\*, we use special words to name the colours of coat of arms\*.

The coat-of-arms of Bourdeilles is described as

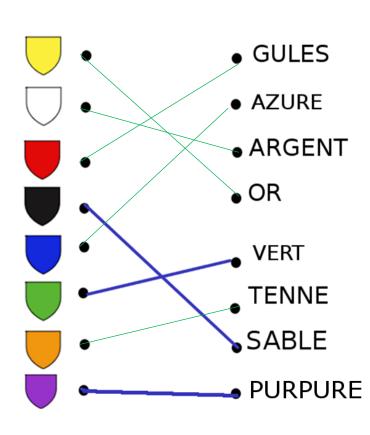
"an *Or* shield\* with two *Gules* griffins' forelegs, nailed in *Azure*, one on the top of the other".



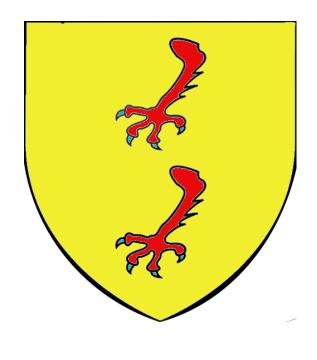
The name comes from a legend telling the exploits of my ancestor Nicanor, son of the princess Athila de Bourdeille and king Marcomer.

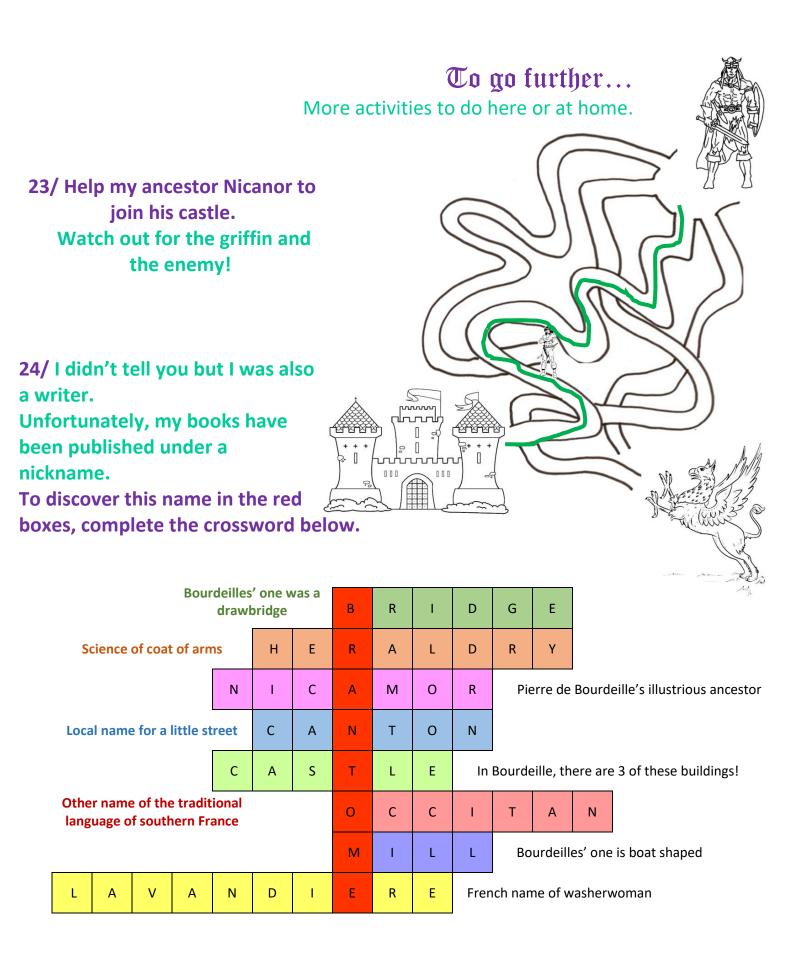
Nicanor embarked with two of his brothers to free Aquitain Gaule from Roman occupation. A violent storm broke out and Nicanor was thrown off on an island in the Bordeaux region. The island was populated with men, but also with legendary creatures with the body of a lion and the head of an eagle, called griffins. Nicanor managed to escape from their ferocity and cut off the legs of one he managed to defeat. It's in memory of this victory that the house of Bourdeille took as **coat of arms**<sup>\*</sup> two griffin legs.

#### 22/ In the list below, link each colour to his heraldry name:



23/ This is Bourdeilles' coat of arms.\* Color in it!





#### Congratulations!

The game is finished!

Go to the Tourist Office to get the right answers or download the answers on our website: *www.perigord-dronne-belle.fr* 

#### LEXICON

**Fortified:** developed to make the passage of an enemy's army much harder in a specific place. The water pits, the ramparts and tower are examples of fortifications.

**Cutwaters:** it's a triangular construction, which protects the pillars of the bridge against tree trunks and other element when there is a flood.

It makes the bridge much stronger.

Mill: a mill is a machine that is used to grind grain and cereals into flour. Some mills are used to grind different kinds of products, to make oil or spices.

Washhouse: it was used to wash clothes before the invention of the first washing machine. People used to wash their clothes in the river. Washhouses have been built to get a secure access to the river and to take shelter from the rain.

Saint Peter: According to the Gospels, Saint Peter is one of the 12 apostles of Jesus. He is depicted with keys because Jesus gave him the keys of heaven.

**Presbytery:** generally on the side of the church, it is the place where the priest lives.

**Contemporary:** something that dates from our time.

**Tinctorial**: used for a plant that can be used to make colorants or dyes.

**Textile:** used for a plant that can be made into threads to make fabrics or clothes.

**Occitan or Langue d'OC:** in the Middle Ages, people didn't speak the same language in the North of France (Langue d'Oïl) and in the South of France (Langue d'Oc). Occitania is the unofficial name of the place where the Occitan culture has developed.

Seneschal: Occitan name for an officer in the service of the king. In the north, this officer was called a « bailiff ».

Manor: a large house owned by a lord.

Machicolation: comes from the French « machicoller » composed of "macher": to crush and "col": neck. Machicolation are openings through which stones could be dropped on enemies

**Courtyard:** It's the place where the servants and the animals of the castle lived. If there is a war, the inhabitants that live outside would come and live in the castles' **courtyard** to get protection. The Lord lives in the **upper courtyard**.

Canton: this word comes from Italy where canton means corner.

**Coat of arms:** it is a drawing used to identify a city, a noble family or a country.

It is like the ancestor of the logo! Each coat of arms is unique and, to describe them, a special vocabulary is used. **Heraldry** is the name given to the science of coat of arms.

Shield: word used in the vocabulary of heraldry to talk about the shape of a shield.

Discover also the Little detective's investigation book: Brantôme en Périgord: the mysterious Caves of the Abbey Mareuil en Périgord: in the footsteps of Arnaut de Mareuil

Available for free on our website *www.perigord-dronne-belle.fr* Or at the Tourist Office PÉRIGORD Dronne Belle







Office de Tourisme PÉRIGORD Dronne Belle 05 53 05 80 63 - <u>contact@perigord-dronne-belle.fr</u>





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the little detective of the Middle Ages **This diploma is awarded to** 

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