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## Annual Appeal 2022

Dear Friends,

We had a vibrant season of programming on Penikese Island where classroom walls were replaced by inviting paths over rolling hills, stunning vistas, historic ruins, and rocky beaches. This year we hosted more than 300 students from schools on Cape Cod and Martha's Vineyard on class trips and 60 middle school girls in our Science + Nature Camp sessions. The overarching goal of our educational programming is to get students out into nature, fostering environmental literacy and stewardship, and Penikese Island provides the perfect setting.

We continue to focus on two central programs: field trip days for school groups in the fall and spring, and a series of week-long Girls' Science + Nature Camp sessions during the summer.

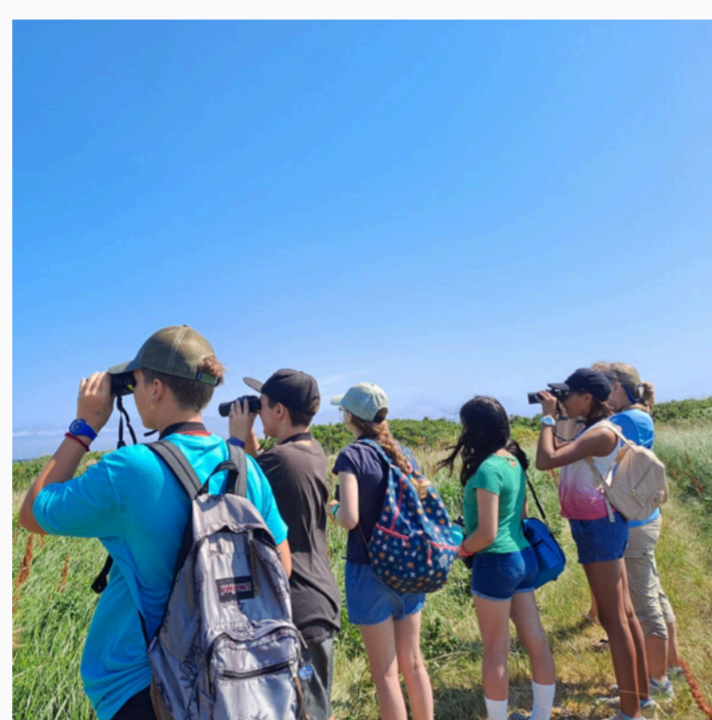
- School trips leverage students' innate curiosity to foster a personal connection with nature and a lifelong respect for the environment. Grades 4-12 students from local schools visit the island during the school year to learn about the ecology and natural history of the Elizabeth Islands, exploring their "own backyard" and strengthening their understanding of our coastal region.
- Science + Nature Camp camp infuses summer fun with scientific exploration, empowering middle school girls to see themselves as capable in the sciences and bolstering their overall self-confidence during this critical developmental time. A vital element of this experience is working with female scientists from nearby scientific institutions.

Spending time in nature greatly improves children's emotional and physical health, stimulates creativity, and promotes learning. It is so important for students to spend time away from their screens, working and communicating together out in the natural world. Penikese provides an ideal environment for this type of experiential group learning.

**We need your support to continue delivering our mission. We hope you will consider a year-end donation to the Penikese Island School.**

At no time has your generosity been more important. Your gift will help provide more students the opportunity to connect with nature and each other. On behalf of the board, staff, and volunteers, thank you for your consideration and warm wishes for a happy holiday season.

[Support Penikese](#)



*"The social and emotional benefit of a unique shared experience for our students is priceless. It is such a joy to be outside in nature with my students and observe a different child emerge from the same one present in my classroom."*

- 7th Grade Teacher from Martha's Vineyard



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