

Science + Nature Camp



STEAM Summer Camps for Girls

Come spend a week exploring nature and science on the remote island of Penikese! Our goal is to empower middle-school girls in the sciences by providing them with role models of women in STEM, and to foster confidence in science, in nature, and in themselves.

Previous workshops with local scientists have included: marine biology, aquaculture, bird nesting habitats and behaviors, electronics and robotics, microscopy, landscape painting, scientific illustration, marine debris, and squid & fish dissections.

Find more information at: www.penikese.org/camp

- Open to girls entering 7th & 8th grade in Fall 2023
- 12 campers per session
- Tuition: \$1,200 with scholarships available

Penikese seeks to ensure that all girls admitted can participate regardless of financial resources.

Our organization does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, gender identity, disability, religion, marital status, national origin, age, sexual orientation or any other class protected by federal, state or local law.

2023 Camp Dates

- Week 1: July 3-7
- Week 2: July 10-14
- Week 3: July 17-21
- Week 4: July 24-28
- Week 5: July 31 - August 4



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Frequently Asked Questions

Where is Penikese?

Penikese Island is located southwest of Cape Cod, at the mouth of Buzzards Bay, not far from Cuttyhunk Island. The boat trip from Woods Hole is 13 miles and takes about 1 hour.

How many campers per week?

Each session has just 12 campers, so everyone will have individualized attention from staff and scientists.

Who is eligible for camp?

Camp is open to girls with an interest in science and nature who will be entering 7th and 8th grades in fall 2023.



What is the Camp schedule?

Monday: Morning tour of scientific institutions in Woods Hole and then head to Penikese after lunch. Monday afternoon includes a tour of the island with some island history.

Tuesday & Thursday: Guest scientists from nearby renowned scientific institutions and local artists arrive and host rotating workshops for campers.

Wednesday & Friday: Campers will use the island as their classroom for science and art activities as well as for traditional fun and games with camp staff. On Friday, campers will pack up after lunch and return to the mainland in the late afternoon.

Who owns Penikese?

Penikese Island belongs to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, which operates it as a wildlife sanctuary with a focus on providing safe nesting ground for endangered terns and other seabirds. Penikese Island School has state permission to run programs there using the rustic buildings that belong to the School. The island is 75 acres, and is open to the public during daylight hours. During camp, our 11-acre campus remains private to maintain a sense of community.

What is it like on the island?

Island life is rustic and "off the grid," providing a serene and device-free environment. We use kerosene lamps in the evening and the ambient sounds come from nesting birds and the ocean. Campers stay in the second floor communal sleeping area of the house. Healthy meals are provided, with the campers helping to cook and clean up. We have hot and cold running water and composting toilets.

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