



You know what 
SHE'S CAPABLE OF.
 So Do We.

Knowing your daughter and understanding and celebrating who she is, how she learns and what makes her smile are what we do best. Our teachers are experts at educating the elementary-school-aged girl. We grow her heart and mind by encouraging her to take risks and ask questions – big, small and everything in between. We lift up our students with warmth and support, laughter and rigor, hugs and high fives and encourage them to try something new and push beyond what they thought possible. You may be surprised by just how far your daughter can go, but she won't be. And neither will we.



All-Girls GIVES HER THE BEST START.

At the earliest age, girls need to know and deeply, truly feel that what they say, think and express is important and valued.

Yes, this can happen in a coed classroom, but the pedagogy and classroom culture are very different and not designed with the specific needs of young girls in mind. Research shows that girls learn best through relationships and societal context. To fully embrace all her potential, your daughter needs to understand how to do something and why it matters. She needs to be agile and embrace change, to be part of a community that cherishes her curiosity. Our teachers are masters at understanding and guiding your daughter, sparking a passion for discovery that will shine throughout her education and across her life.

Grizzly Den

OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

with 11 different exploration stations



GFS at a GLANCE



GFS GRADS CURRENTLY ATTEND

Brown, Cornell, Johns Hopkins, Princeton, Penn, Swarthmore, UVA and Vanderbilt, among other top colleges and universities



1 full-time Lower School Digital Media Specialist leading virtual lessons using iPads, smart boards, video conferencing technology and more



110-ACRE

wooded campus with 24/7 security



STEAM Programming

Our STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art/design and math) curriculum inspires girls' natural affinity for collaborative problem-solving and critical and creative thinking. Our innovative curriculum, distinctive outdoor classroom and two dedicated science and Imagineering labs – not to mention, our vast campus as a learning lab – give your daughter space to explore and grow as a thinker, innovator and problem solver.



Imagineering

GFS's unique K-5th Imagineering pre-engineering program combines computers, circuit boards, robotics, Legos, 3D printers, power tools and low-tech (think crafting) to build a strong foundation and appreciation for STEAM in our youngest students. Whether she's testing soil samples or charting chemical reactions in science class, conducting water ecology experiments in the outdoor Grizzly Den, testing speed dynamics or studying volcanoes, your daughter will gain confidence in herself and will be excited to tackle new topics.

STEAM Week: For a week in February, the 4th and 5th Grades suspend classes to dive headlong into an Imagineering challenge. Previous young engineers have built interactive (stuffed) monsters and plants, worked in teams to design high-tech habitats for the campus's woodland creatures and collaborated to build and program musical instruments.



3 APPLIED MUSIC

recitals attended by entire Lower School

30 MINUTES

daily for Responsive Classroom teacher/student gatherings to promote positive behavior and kindness



20 MILES

walked by each class over course of year during P.E. Power Walks around campus



A Strong Foundation

Our 4th Grade girls take lead in our innovative, school-wide financial literacy program. They manage GFS's "Wise Bank," a school-hosted branch of M&T Bank, where they serve as tellers for their peers.

The girls also participate in teleconferences with Federal Reserve officers, take bank field trips and play the Maryland Stock Market Game with a mock portfolio. The goal is teaching financial responsibility through a fun, hands-on program that "provides an amazing leadership opportunities for our Fourth Grade Students," says Head of Lower Division Gail Hutton.



A Day in the Life OF A KINDERGARTNER



7:30 A.M.
Free early drop-off led by faculty

8:00 A.M.
Morning Meeting for whole
Lower School

*Six of the eight
monthly Morning Meetings
are student-led to
enhance public-speaking
skills and confidence.*

8:40-10:40 A.M.
Music, Language Arts,
Math and Spanish

*Every Lower School
student takes Spanish,
taught by our full-time
Spanish teacher.*

11:00 A.M.
Lunch

*Grades K-2
bring their lunch
or order from
Graul's; 3rd-5th
may purchase
lunch: hot
entrees and
salad/soup/
sandwich/
rice bar.*

11:30 A.M.
Recess in Lower School Playground,
and two other age-appropriate
playgrounds.

12:10 P.M.
Science

12:50 P.M.
Themed classroom project blending
cross-curricular activities with
girls' real-life experiences.

1:30 P.M.
Free play and GFS-provided healthy snack

*Riding lessons (fee)
are one P.E. day/week.
4th and 5th has a
popular Riding, Polo and
Dance P.E. unit.*

1:50 P.M.
Physical Education

2:30 P.M.
Quiet reading

2:50 P.M.
4th Grade Reading Buddy activity
each week

3:10 P.M.
Closing Time Circle

*Big Sisters/Little Sisters
Programs include
1st and 5th and
yoga with
3rd and
Pre-Kindergarten.*

3:30 P.M.
Ride the GFS bus home,
carpool or attend Woodlands
afterschool program



Woodlands Afterschool



Learning doesn't stop just because the school day has ended. With Woodlands, our popular, robust afterschool program just for Lower School students, girls pursue their passions, try new things and deepen friendships.

Taught by teachers, parents or outside specialists, the onsite, fee-based clubs include 10-15 offerings in fall, winter and spring with everything from GFS-sponsored Girl Scout and Brownie troops and robotics to chess, art, dance, basketball, drone club and ecology with Irvine Nature Center.

Garrison Forest School.
You Can. You Will.

LEARN MORE AT GFS.ORG/LOWERSCHOOL

SCHEDULE YOUR CAMPUS VISIT: GFS.ORG/VISIT

Empowering girls to realize their full potential and live lives of purpose