



Mission Statement

We inspire young people of talent and promise to develop clear values, a desire for wisdom, and an appreciation for all endeavors which broaden the mind and enlighten the spirit.

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This overview is written to describe Green Hedges' guiding principles for each comprehensive program. The basic concepts and essential learning questions are listed for each grade.

Core Values

Our community lives by these values:

Achieve Distinction

We embolden all to achieve excellence in their academic and personal pursuits and help them recognize how their effort translates into continued success.

Explore Opportunities

We actively engage in a broad range of academic, fine arts, athletic, and extra-curricular endeavors to discover potential and foster growth.

Inspire Character

Strong moral conduct is fundamental to our community, and we purposefully promote self-reflection, honesty, empathy, kindness, and respect.

Become Yourself

We commit to know each child well in order to support each child's development into a capable, confident, conscientious young adult.

School Philosophy

“Education should open the doors of the child’s mind to the delight of the unknown, the strange, the antique, the foreign, the new ... it should open the doors of the soul.”

Kenton Kilmer—Co-Founder, Green Hedges School

All children embark on their own educational journeys brimming with potential, informed by nature, and nurtured through personal experience. We believe each journey is better and more nourishing if, during these formative years, it takes place within a **deeply-connected and diverse community**. Such a community provides children a supportive, physically- and emotionally-safe environment where they become confident learners who take risks and actively engage in their world. Green Hedges is this community.

In 1942, Frances and Kenton Kilmer, children of international artists, founded Green Hedges School to provide a learning environment that emphasizes excellence in the core subjects while reflecting their passion for the arts and languages and their appreciation for cultural and religious diversity. Building on their vision, we teach a robust liberal arts program from the earliest ages—**providing context, encouraging connections, and inspiring creativity**. Our approach creates a strong foundation and allows students to achieve a deeper and broader understanding within all disciplines.

The **intimate size** of our community enables each child to be known, valued, and guided as an individual. Each student actively engages in all aspects of the school experience, including collaborating with and mentoring students across grade levels. Our graduates leave Green Hedges well prepared to thoughtfully and confidently meet new challenges with the advantages of an excellent education and a certainty in their sense of self.

Green Hedges' History

Green Hedges School was founded in 1942 by Kenton and Frances Kilmer. Kenton Kilmer, a published poet, was the son of poet Joyce Kilmer and Aline Kilmer, a writer. Kenton grew up in a home where recitation of poetry and reading were passions and where discussion of the ideas of other writers was encouraged. Frances Frieseke Kilmer was the daughter of American Impressionist painter Frederick Frieseke; her mother harbored strong passions about literature and encouraged Frances to write poetry. Music, literature, and poetry were very much a part of her childhood years as well.

As their children became school age, the Kilmers sought a school that supported their values: a school that would have small classes; a school that would provide a learning environment that united all the arts—literature, poetry, music, art and drama—with solid academics; a school that introduced young children to second languages; a school that would encourage appreciation of cultural and religious differences. Unable to find such a place, Kenton and Frances Kilmer established their own school in 1942.

The first class of Green Hedges School met in the spring of 1942 in a room of the Kilmers' Arlington, Virginia, home. There were ten children in the class and one full-time teacher. Mrs. Kilmer taught classes and was involved in all aspects of the school. Even when she was expecting twins, she “came by each day to teach a bit of French and play the piano.” Kenton Kilmer frequently took time away from his job at the Library of Congress to read aloud to the students. By 1955, the Kilmer family had grown to eight children and the School to sixty students; it was bursting at the seams. A property found in Windover Heights proved an ideal solution. Both the Kilmer family and Green Hedges School moved from Arlington to Vienna that year, and the School was expanded to eight grades.

Upon the retirements of Mr. and Mrs. Kilmer in 1967, Green Hedges School was incorporated as a nonprofit organization. Today, parents and community leaders serve on the Board of Trustees, and the school enrolls approximately 190 students.

Learn more at
www.greenhedges.org.

Signature Programs

The founders of GHS were ahead of their time in their conviction that children were best served with a rich educational program that emphasized excellence in the core subjects and included instruction in the Arts, World Languages, opportunities for Community Service and for learning by doing. This foundation has evolved into a number of programs which set our School apart. These programs have a transformative impact on our students that extends beyond their years at GHS.

Leadership

Frequent opportunities for each student to lead and to be led is part of the GHS fabric. Every morning two Middle School students, together with our Head of School, greet families and assist with morning drop-off by helping young students out of their cars and escorting them safely to the crosswalk. Our entire school community begins and ends every week together at our Opening and Closing assemblies. These all-school meetings, facilitated and led by Grade 8 students, are an opportunity for various grades to present their work in front of peers and for outside performers to visit our school.

GHS intentionally creates leadership opportunities at all grade levels, incorporating themes of ethics and personal responsibility every step of the way. From the beginning, leadership is emphasized in both deed and thought, not just as an act but as having respect for one another and for the greater community. At GHS, leadership experience and instruction begins in Montessori where the five year olds

understand that they are role models for their younger classmates. Opportunities continue at many points across our grade levels, where older students present to and mentor younger students on specific projects at various times during the year.

Because every student at GHS is known by the faculty and staff, all work together to foster, encourage, and celebrate each student's particular leadership style and strengths.

Experiential Learning

Beginning in Grade 4, students take overnight trips to sites where the focus is on learning by doing. Grade 4 spends a night at Hard Bargain Farm Environmental Center, a working family farm, to better understand the farm-to-table food cycle and learn about our local watershed ecosystem. Grade 5 spends 3 days and 2 nights studying ecology on the Chesapeake Bay at the Echo Hill Outdoor School. Middle School students experience an overnight camping excursion, building teamwork on ropes courses, confidence on climbing walls and zip lines, etc, at an outdoor learning center. In the spring, each Middle School grade explores an East Coast city. There are also optional trips during Spring Break, most recently to Belize, Costa Rica, and Quebec City.

Montessori students each have a class garden which they plant and tend. In the spring, older students help with planting and campus projects. Plans are also in place for a school-wide vegetable and native plant garden as well as an apiary to be located on the newly expanded campus.

World Languages

French instruction begins with our Montessori students at age 3 and continues through Grade 8. In Montessori, classes meet two or three times a week and in Grade 1, four. In Grade 5, students have the opportunity to continue their immersion in French or to switch to Spanish. Beginning

in Grade 6, all students study Latin in addition to either French or Spanish. Middle School students take optional trips to French or Spanish speaking countries during Spring Break or Summer vacation. Prior to graduation, our students, on average, satisfy two years of high school world language credit.

Arts At Green Hedges

Drama, visual arts, and music have always been at the core of the GHS curriculum alongside traditional academic subject areas.

Music instruction begins with our youngest students at age 3. In Grade 3, each student learns to read music and play in a group setting through our recorder program. At the end of their Grade 3 year, with guidance from the Band Director, each student chooses an instrument for concert band instruction in subsequent years. All students participate in concert band through Grade 8, and in Middle School students have the option of joining the GHS Jazz Band whose performances are a staple at numerous Vienna community events.

Drama productions are part of each student's Green Hedges experience. Beginning in Grade 1 every student receives drama instruction including acting, stage direction, and blocking as they memorize lines, rehearse and perform a play for the entire School.

The Rice Arts Center is dedicated to studio art. Students work with a rich selection of media as they learn drawing, painting, and ceramics as well as art history and the creative process.

At Green Hedges School, we integrate the curriculum with objectives of our mission and principles of our philosophy in developmentally appropriate ways.

Montessori

Our early childhood program adheres to the Montessori philosophy of education. Through a curriculum that promotes hands-on learning, self-discovery, exploration, and an awareness of order in the world, children embark on their school experience with a sense of joy, wonder, and independence.

Montessori Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character development • Independence • Social skills • Coordination • Concentration • Sense of order • Joy of learning through exploration and discovery • Grace and courtesy • Respect for self, others, and the environment • Peace • Conflict resolution 	<p><i>Junior Great Books, Making Meaning, Being a Writer</i></p> <p>Literacy Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-reading skills • Visual perception • Phonetic alphabet • Vocabulary development & enrichment • Pre-writing skills • Fine motor skill activities • Letter formation • Grammar and punctuation <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fiction, nonfiction, tales, and poetry <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Self expression through writing 	<p><i>Dreambox</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploration of Montessori materials • Number recognition • Sequencing • Association of symbol and quantity • Decimal system • One-to-one correspondence • Measurement • Four basic operations • Geometry • Fractions • Charts/Graphs • Word problems • Estimation • Money • Time/clock • Technology 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continent puzzle maps • Holidays • World cultures and traditions, children • Continent/Country study • Land and water forms • Community Awareness • Community • Historical events • Native Americans/ Pilgrims/Colonial America • Map skills • Timelines 	<p>Basic Foundation For:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Botany • Biology • Zoology • Solar System • Earth Science • Physical Science
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; background-color: #e0f0e0;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Montessori: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS</h2> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do the activities promote the development of social skills, emotional growth, physical coordination, as well as order, concentration, and independence? 2. Is each child becoming an enthusiastic learner and finding joy in the journey? 3. Is the child developmentally ready to take on the next in a series of challenging cognitive and academic lessons? 4. Does the work foster in each child confidence, self-awareness, self-esteem, and a better understanding of the world? </div>				
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC AND MOVEMENT	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
<p>French</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Listening and pronunciation • Short conversations • Puppets, masks, and games • Songs • Stories • French Play • Nursery Rhymes 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to simple songs, poems, and chants • Whispering, speaking, and singing voices • Gross motor activities • Exposure to percussion instruments • Word rhythm • Basic musical rhythms and melodies (vocal and physical responses) • Creative and expressive movement • Musical instruments • Study of composers • Word painting with large and small movement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Observation and reflection • Work in a variety of media (Clay, paper, paint) • Seasonal projects • Study of well-known artists • Study of colors: primary, secondary, cool, warm, etc. • Study of art styles • Art appreciation • Grace Arts Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power • Following directions and active listening • Gross locomotor skills • Fitness • Positive peer interactions • Confidence • Spatial awareness • Kicking skills • Non-locomotor skills • Ball skills—Throwing and Catching • Movement games 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Parade/ Feast • Winter concert/Feast • Library Star Reader Program • Montessori Garden • Spring Stewardship Day • Founders' Day Performance • Teddy Bear Picnic • Special speakers • Field trips to support curriculum

Lower School

This is an overview of the interrelated, comprehensive curriculum for Grade One through Grade Five. Children are taught basic information through a variety of resources and methods. They are encouraged to extend their knowledge and experiences and relate them to other areas of learning and exploration. In addition, cultivating respect for others, character development, and study skills are important elements of each child's development.

Grade One Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimism Friendship Character Respect A sense of wonder Confidence Perseverance 	<p><i>Making Meaning, Junior Great Books, Being a Writer</i></p> <p>Literacy Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergent Skills in reading: (vocabulary, comprehension, word identification, phonics, oral reading) D’Nealian handwriting manuscript Emergent Skills in writing Spelling words and rules Basic grammar concepts Sentence building <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Alphabetizing <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literature and Poetry Integration Folk and fairy tales, fables <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative and expository writing Writing Workshop 	<p><i>Investigations—Level 1, Problem Solver, enVisionmath 2.0, Dreambox</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Odd/even numbers Addition Subtraction Multiplication (simple) 2-D/3-D geometry Measurement (area, length, width, perimeter, temperature) Patterns and functions Place value Time Story problems Introduction to algebraic concepts Money Surveys and graphing Data collection and analysis Use of Montessori support materials Vocabulary Number Sense 	<p><i>Social Studies Alive! My Community</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map concepts Land forms Holidays/cultural celebrations Communities Community Members Civics Economics 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Care of the environment Insects Magnets Human body Observation techniques Life cycles—Painted Lady butterfly Weather cycles Basic concepts of the Scientific Method Nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboarding skills Digital drawing and painting Terminology Web navigation iPad navigation Digital citizenship We-Do Lego Robotics Simple coding and programming
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; background-color: #2e8b57; color: white;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Grade One: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS</h2> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is friendship? 2. How can I learn to better communicate in speech and writing? 3. What are some “circles of life” and how do I find them? 4. What helps me do my best each day? 5. How do I demonstrate independence? </div>					
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>French</p> <p><i>Les Loustics—Level A1-1, Unité 1-3</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation Listening and pronunciation Repetition of poems and rhymes Visuals to enhance vocabulary development Songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Basic musical repertoire Vocal exploration Creative, expressive, and choreographed movement Dynamics: forte, piano, crescendo, diminuendo Articulation: staccato, legato Rhythm Beat vs. rhythm so-mi-la combinations Steps, skips, repeats Percussion skills Sing, speak, whisper, shout Dances and games from various cultures Good singing posture Performance skills Curwen hand signs Keyboard fluency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Primary and secondary colors Elements of design Art media: clay, paper, beads, paint Techniques: collage, sculpting, painting, drawing, decoupage Seasonal and multicultural projects Introduction to a variety of artists and artist styles Art room etiquette 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Locomotor and balance skills Safety Movement Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power Skill development in sports Following directions and active listening Positive peer interactions Spatial awareness Sportsmanship GHS Physical Fitness Challenge Jump Rope for Heart 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class play Literature based field trips Library Star Reader Program Butterfly unit 	

Textbooks are indicated in italics.

Grade Two Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Collaboration Friendship Conflict resolution 	<p><i>Junior Great Books, Being a Writer, Words Their Way</i></p> <p>Literacy Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phonics/word study Spelling Vocabulary Grammar Comprehension Word identification Guided small group <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Dictionary and thesaurus Non-fiction text features <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Author study Shared inquiry Biographies Non-fiction Poetry Reading across genres Comprehension strategies Story elements <p>Communication</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Creative/expository Graphic organizers Writing mechanics Writing process Poetry Writers workshops D'Nealian handwriting: manuscript and cursive 	<p><i>Investigations-Level 2, Figure It Out, Everyday Math, enVisionmath 2.0, Dreambox</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vocabulary Number sense Ordinal numbers Odd/even numbers Properties of addition and subtraction 2-D and 3-D shapes Geometry—symmetry, plane and solid figures, lines and angles, perimeters Time, money, and temperature Estimation/rounding Measurement (length/width, capacity, and mass) Patterns and functions Terms and notations of fractions Story problems Multiplication (Basic 1, 2, 5, 10) Data collection and analysis Probability Test taking strategies Problem solving strategies Performance tasks 	<p><i>Social Studies Alive-Community and Beyond</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Diversity and immigration Global Responsibility Geography and map skills Research skills Basic map skills Continents and oceans Land-forms and Landmarks Virginia and communities 	<p><i>Discovery Works–Level 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific Method Energy, force, and motion Habitats and animal research Changes over time (dinosaurs) State of matter Science lab experiments Health issues: germs and nutrition The brain and mindfulness Plants 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboarding skills Terminology Web navigation Digital citizenship Coding We-Do Lego Robotics
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; background-color: #2e8b57; color: white;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Grade Two: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS</h2> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can I show an awareness of myself as an individual and as part of a larger Grade Two community? 2. How do I seek out and grow from challenge? 3. What does it mean to be a good steward of our world? </div>					
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>French</p> <p><i>Les Loustics—Level A1-1, Unité 3-6</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation Short dialogues Identification of sounds and French words Listening and pronunciation Visuals to enhance vocabulary development Songs and poems 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Curwen handsigns Rhythm Melody: mi, re, do Instruments: winds, strings, percussion Improvisation using body percussion and classroom instruments Vocal range exploration Basic mallet techniques Melodic patterns in echo and call-and-response forms Memorization of a repertoire of songs Performance skills Introduction to singing with a conductor Keyboard fluency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Color theory Composition Negative and positive spaces Elements of design relating to specific art projects Art media: clay, plaster, paper, beads, fabric Techniques: collage, sculpting, painting, drawing, decoupage, printing Seasonal and multicultural projects Study of artists and artist styles 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Locomotor and balance skills Safety Movement Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power Skill development in sports Following directions and listening actively Spatial Awareness Teamwork/Sportmanship Self-esteem Cognitive building Jump Rope for Heart GHS Physical Fitness Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class play Field trips to support curriculum Written reports and oral presentations Book projects In-class presentation—paleontologist Library Star Reader Program 	

Grade Three Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Collaboration Flexible problem solving Respect 	<p><i>Making Meaning, Junior Great Books, Being a Writer, Daily Grammar Practice</i></p> <p>Literacy Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phonics/word study Differentiated Spelling Vocabulary <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Dictionary and thesaurus Encyclopedia and atlas <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reading strategies Literature groups Book reports Text features Reading across genres <p>Communication and Writing Cursive Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D'Nealian cursive Grammar/writing mechanics Revising and editing Journaling Expository and narrative writing Test-taking strategies Writers Workshop 	<p><i>Investigations–Level 3, Problem Solver, Hands-on Equations, Dreambox, enVisionmath 2.0</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number sense and place value Rounding and estimation Prime and composite numbers Early concepts of multiplication and division Inverse operations Data analysis and probability Properties of addition and multiplication 2-D/3-D Geometry Measurement—length, weight, capacity, time, temperature Patterns and functions Terms and notations of fractions and decimals Problem solving strategies Vocabulary Test-taking strategies 	<p><i>Social Studies Alive: Regions of our Country</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Map skills Research skills Social science: economy, history, politics Diversity and changes in U.S. Regional studies of U.S. 	<p><i>Science Fusion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific Method Energy and Matter: natural and man-made resources Plants and Animals Life cycle of frogs Recycling and management of the environment Simple machines Engineering Design Process Earth and Moon Ecosystems and interactions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keyboarding skills Internet research Terminology Web navigation Media presentations Digital citizenship 1:1 iPad Concepts of Coding Publishing We-Do Lego Robotics
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; background-color: #4CAF50; color: white;"> <h2 style="margin: 0;">Grade Three: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS</h2> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does it mean to be a friend to the earth? 2. How do I communicate respectfully with others? 3. How can I develop systems for organizing materials and strengthening good study habits? </div>					
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>French</p> <p><i>Vitamine–Level 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation Short dialogues Sentence structure Introduction to grammar syntax Introduction to spelling Written work with workbook and textbooks Listening, speaking, and pronunciation Reading Songs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorder Play a varied musical repertoire Identify and perform music in ABC form Rhythm Meters: 2/4, 3/4, 4/4 Read notes (on the treble clef) Basic recorder music Vocal exploration with blending voice Part singing: echo songs, partner songs, easy 2-part canons 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Color theory Applied composition Refining techniques: collage, sculpting, painting, drawing, decoupage, printing Art media: clay, plaster, paper, beads, fabric, wire New techniques: multi-media projects, more advanced clay techniques, three-dimensional assemblage Seasonal and multicultural projects Group projects Study of artists and artist styles Cross-curricular connections in history, social studies, science, and language arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Locomotor and balance skills Safety Movement Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power Skill development in sports Following directions and active listening Positive peer interactions Jump Rope for Heart GHS Physical Fitness Challenge Sportsmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Class play Life cycle of frogs Maypole celebration School recycling program advisors States Fair Field trips to support curriculum Library Star Reader Program 1:1 iPad National French Exam Southern Feast 	

Textbooks are indicated in italics.

Grade Four Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Kindness Respect Intellectual curiosity Responsibility Independence 	<p><i>Making Meaning, Junior Great Books, Being a Writer, Guided Spelling</i></p> <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Differentiated spelling Daily word ladders Vocabulary Grammar and mechanics Test-taking strategies Reader's workshop approach Handwriting practice Keyboarding practice Writer's workshop Writing process Various writing styles: narrative, expository, poetry, & creative Revision and editing <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Citation guidelines <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehension skills Literature circles Responses to literature Literary elements Reading across genres 	<p><i>Problem Solver, Mad Minutes, Daily Math Practice-Grade 4, enVisionmath 2.0, IXL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiplication and division Computational fluency Base ten number system to 1,000,000 Addition and subtraction Fractions and decimals Addition of rational numbers Graphs and tables Representing, comparing, analyzing, and interpreting data Probability 2-D/3-D figures Measurement of angles and standard units of length, weight, and capacity Area and volume Problem solving Elapsed time Solid figures 	<p><i>Social Studies Alive! America's Past</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research skills Geography Native Americans European explorers Colonial America Slavery Comparing the colonies Growing tensions between the colonies and Britain Declaration of Independence American Revolution Civil War 	<p><i>Delta Science Content Readers, Science Fusion</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Scientific investigations, reasoning, and logic Earth patterns, cycles, and change Force, matter, and energy Living systems Environmental studies Electricity and magnetism Weather Nutrition 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Formats for publishing documents using a variety of media Using word processing, graphics, and multimedia authoring programs to express and solve problems Presentations for projects Editing skills Web navigation Keyboarding skills Digital citizenship 1:1 iPad
<div style="border: 2px solid green; padding: 10px; margin: 10px auto; width: 80%;"> <h2 style="text-align: center;">Grade Four: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS</h2> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is community? 2. Where is my place in the world? 3. What are my responsibilities as a steward of the world? </div>					
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>French</p> <p><i>Raconte-moi</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Conversation Short dialogues Grammar Spelling Written work with workbook, web support, and textbooks Listening, speaking, and pronunciation Reading Songs 	<p>General Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recorder Advanced musical repertoire Music theory: ds al coda, accent, tenuto, legato, fermata, staccato, scales, and form Key signatures and accidentals Confidence as a solo and ensemble performer Seasonal and multicultural projects Reflection and evaluation of performances <p>Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm-up and practice routines Rehearsal techniques Characteristic sound production Ensemble performing Instrument care 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portrait in art history and today Color relationships Refining techniques: collage, sculpting, painting, drawing, decoupage, printing Art media: clay, plaster, paper, beads, fabric, wire New techniques: story book illustrations, play backgrounds, reliefs, yarn weaving, Seasonal and multicultural projects Group projects Study of artists and artist styles Cross-curricular connections in history, social studies, science, and language arts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Locomotor and balance skills Safety Movement Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power Skill development in sports Following directions and active listening Positive peer interactions Leadership skills Self-esteem Cognitive building Sportsmanship Jump Rope for Heart GHS Physical Fitness Program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Writing projects and publishing Class play Overnight trip to Hard Bargain Farm Independent projects Library Star Reader Program Wax Museum 1:1 iPad National French Exam 	

Grade Five Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	TECHNOLOGY
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Citizenship Confidence Self-esteem Good decision-making Respect Responsibility Independence 	<p><i>Making Meaning, Junior Great Books, IXL</i></p> <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spelling program Vocabulary Grammar and mechanics Test-taking skills Workshop approach to writing Various writing styles: narrative, expository, poetry and persuasive essays Revision and editing <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Citation guidelines <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehension skills Book clubs Response to literature Reading across genres 	<p><i>McDougal Littell Math, Course 1, Daily Math Practice, Hands-on Equations, IXL</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reasoning with numbers Place value to millions Basic operations and computation Multiplication and division Inverse operations Data analysis Geometry Decimals Fractions Equivalencies of decimals, percents, and fractions Introduction to pre-algebra concepts Ratios Integers 	<p><i>History Alive! The Ancient World</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ancient Civilizations: Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, Persia, Rome Geography Cultures and people Research process 	<p><i>Discovery Works–Level 3, Hands-on Science–Levels 3 and 5</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lab expectations and lab safety Planets and solar system Scientific Method Human body systems Owl pellet dissection Plant and animal cells Ecosystems Ecology Matter Space travel Rocks and minerals Simple machines Light and sound energy Science Project 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Search engines Web navigation Keyboarding skills Media presentations Digital citizenship 1:1 iPad
WORLD LANGUAGE	MUSIC	ART	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS	
<p>French</p> <p><i>Raconte-moi</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking and listening Vocabulary Conversation Culture Videos Reading Grammar structures and writing Web support with basic skills <p>Spanish</p> <p><i>Saludos–Level 1</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pronunciation Conversations Reading and writing Basic grammar Learning about Spanish speaking countries 	<p>General Music</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Performance of an advanced musical repertoire Exploration of world music Global musicians and their practices Multilingual selections Key signatures and accidentals Solfeggio Seasonal and multicultural projects Reflection and evaluation of performances Written response to musical prompts Introduction to performing arts concepts <p>Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm-up and practice routines Rehearsal techniques Scales Notation Music theory Ensemble performing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advanced techniques: sculpting, painting, drawing, printing Art media: clay, plaster, paper, beads, fabric, wire, multimedia Seasonal projects Group projects Study of artists and artist styles Preparation for projects in Middle School Art Cross-curricular connections in history, social studies, science, and language arts 1 and 2 point perspective 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Locomotor and balance skills Safety and health issues Movement Coordination, flexibility, strength, and power Skill development in sports Following directions and active listening Positive peer interactions Jump Rope for Heart GHS Physical Fitness Challenge Sportsmanship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Fair Class play Writing collections Echo Hill trip Ancient World Project Book Bingo Library Star Reader Program 1:1 iPad National French Exam 	

Grade Five: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. How do I show respect for myself, my peers, adults, and the entire Green Hedges community?
2. How do I take responsibility for my actions and learning so that I am ready to enter Middle School?
3. How do I develop the self-esteem and confidence necessary to make thoughtful, independent decisions?

Textbooks are indicated in italics.

Middle School

The Middle School at Green Hedges builds on the rich and challenging program in the Lower School while offering new experiences that include fostering leadership. In conjunction with the basic information presented in the grade-level curriculum grids, effective study habits, sound study skills, independence, and responsibility are important components of the middle school program. The middle school years offer students exciting and rewarding opportunities to explore the expanding world of knowledge and perspectives in all subject areas.

Grade Six Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Self-awareness Empathy Independence Self-confidence <p>Awareness of Growth <i>Skills for Adolescence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical, emotional, and social changes Communication Healthy choices Human growth and development Service learning projects 	<p>Theme: Identity</p> <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar/writing mechanics Vocabulary/spelling Essay writing/creative writing Study skills/test taking skills <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research and process Citation <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehension skills Literary elements Figurative language Authorial intent Poetry Book talks 	<p><i>McDougal, Littell Math, Course 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patterns and algebraic thinking Decimal operations Geometrical figures and properties Fractions and operations Integers and operations Equations and inequalities Ratios and proportional thinking Problem solving Percents Probability Measurement Simple statistics Logical thinking games Robotics/Coding 	<p><i>History Alive! The Medieval World and Beyond</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Europe during Middle Ages Rise of Islam African Kingdoms in the Middle Ages Imperial China and Feudal Japan Pre-Columbian Americas Renaissance and Reformation Civics Current events 	<p><i>Weather and Climate, Inside the Restless Earth</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Earth studies: pollution, weather, climate, rocks and minerals, fossils, plate tectonic, earthquakes, volcanoes Environmental science Scientific Method Science Fair Project Designing and conducting experiments Climate change and society
WORLD LANGUAGE	THE ARTS		PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
<p>French</p> <p><i>Raconte-moi Encore</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking and listening Vocabulary Conversation Culture Videos Reading/writing Grammar structures <p>Spanish</p> <p><i>Buen Viaje Book</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pronunciation Conversations Reading and writing Geography and culture of Spain and Latin America Videos Audio CD Grammar Readers <p>Latin</p> <p><i>Latin For Americans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar Sentence structure Case usage Vocabulary Culture Readings Web support with basic skills 	<p>Performing Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Singing Acting Kinesics Dance Design Public speaking Standard repertoire Monologue Preparation <p>Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Warm-up and practice routines Scales Improvisation Notation Music theory Music history Solo or small ensemble performing Ensemble performance Sight-reading 	<p>Studio Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Renaissance: Perspective, inventions, tour at National Gallery of Art Typography Expanding art techniques Art History Inter-curricula connections City project <p>Digital Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Digital photography Introduction to digital portfolio Influences on artists in a digital society Graphic Design I Ceramics wheel and advanced building techniques 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperative games Safety and health issues Sportsmanship Sports skills and drills Sports rules and strategies Physical fitness Muscles and function Jump Rope for Heart GHS Physical Fitness Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Science Fair Middle School fall wilderness retreat Spring trips MS musical Library Star Reader Program Book Bingo 1:1 iPad National French Exam

Grade Six: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. How can I help myself with the MS transition?
2. How can I explore opportunities in MS?
3. How do I challenge myself daily?

Textbooks are indicated in italics.

Grade Seven Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	WORLD LANGUAGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Character development • Self-awareness • Empathy • Self-confidence • Community involvement <p>Awareness of Growth <i>Skills for Adolescence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical, emotional, and social changes • Importance of effective communication • Healthy choices • Human growth and development • Service learning projects 	<p>Theme: The Journey</p> <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar/writing mechanics • Vocabulary/spelling • Essay writing/creative writing • Study skills/SSAT prep <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and process • Citation <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehension skills • Literary elements • Poetry • Book talks • Figurative language • Authorial Intent 	<p><i>McDougal, Littell Math, Pre-Algebra</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Variables and variable expressions • Integers and operations • Number theory • Fundamentals of probability and statistics • Ratios, rates, and proportional thinking • Introduction to linear functions and systems • Plane geometry and angle connections • Solids, volume, and surface area • Problem solving and logic games • Robotics/Coding 	<p><i>The Age of Western Expansion, The History of US, History Alive: The US Through Industrialism</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colombian Exchange • Colonial America • Independence/ American Revolution • Constitution/ Bill of Rights • Growth of Democracy • Westward Expansion • Slavery • Civil War • Reconstruction • Geography • Civics • Current events 	<p><i>Life Science</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Living things: cells, genetics, evolution, classification, and ecology • Ecosystems • Plants and animals • Environmental issues • Scientific method • Body systems • Bacteria, fungi, and protists • Lab techniques and experimentation • Biodiversity • Climate change and ecosystems • Human body structures/systems • Science Fair Projects 	<p>French</p> <p><i>Raconte-moi Encore</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speaking and listening • Conversation/skits • Vocabulary • Culture • Reading • Grammar • Writing • Online language lab <p>Spanish</p> <p><i>Buen Viaje Book 1 con't</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pronunciation • Conversations • Reading and writing • Geography and culture of Spain and Latin America • Videos • Audio CDs • Grammar • Readers <p>Latin</p> <p><i>Latin For Americans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grammar • Sentence structure • Case usage • Vocabulary • Culture • Reading comprehension

THE ARTS	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
<p>Performing Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Acting • Kinesics • Dance • Public speaking • Standard repertoire • Monologue Prep <p>Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm-up and practice routines • Scales • Improvisation • Notation • Music theory • Music history • Solo or small ensemble performing • Ensemble performing • Sight-reading <p>Studio Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-define techniques with emphasis on personal content; self expression • Digital imaging • Printing techniques • Different artist styles • Art History • Inter-curricula connections <p>Digital Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Techniques in digital photography • Digital illustration • Digital Portfolio II • Graphic Design II 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative games • Safety and health issues • Sportsmanship • Sports skills and drills • Sports rules and strategies • Physical fitness • Muscles and function • Jump Rope for Heart • GHS Physical Fitness Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Fair • Math meets and projects • Trip to Philadelphia • Middle School fall wilderness retreat • Math-geometry sketch pad • Spring trips • National Gallery trip • MS Musical • Library Star Reader Program • National Latin Exam • National French Exam • National Spanish Exam • 1:1 iPad

Grade Seven: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. What changes happen in my life as a middle school student?
2. How can I become an independent, critical, strategic thinker using knowledge, computational skills, and a positive attitude?
3. What steps do I need to take to really find myself?

Grade Eight Curriculum

GHS VALUES	LANGUAGE ARTS	MATH	SOCIAL STUDIES	SCIENCE	WORLD LANGUAGE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Character development Self-awareness Empathy Self-confidence Community involvement School leadership <p>Awareness of Growth</p> <p><i>Skills for Adolescence</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physical, emotional, and social changes Importance of effective communication Healthy choices Human growth and development Service learning projects 	<p>Theme: Individual vs Society</p> <p>Communication Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar/writing mechanics Vocabulary/spelling Essay writing/creative writing Study skills/SSAT prep Oratory skills <p>Research Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Research Citation <p>Literature Appreciation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comprehension skills Figurative language Literary elements Authorial intent Poetry Book talks 	<p><i>McDougal, Littell Math, Algebra I</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Properties of real numbers Multi-step equations Graphing & solving linear equations Quadratics Linear inequalities Systems of equations and inequalities Exponents and factoring Polynomials Radicals and geometry connections Radical and rational equations Story problems and strategies Absolute value equations Absolute value inequalities Personal Finance/Money 	<p><i>History Alive!, The United States through Modern Times</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Geography Transcontinental Railroad Rise of Industry/The Gilded Age Progressive Era Immigration World War I Roaring Twenties Great Depression World War II Cold War Civil Rights Movement Contemporary American Society Economics Current events Civics 	<p><i>Introduction to Matter, Interactions of Matter and Forces, Motion, and Energy</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Matter and properties Physical and chemical changes Elements and compounds Atomic theories Periodic Table Chemical reactions Forces and motion Machines Energy Environmental issues Understanding the physical world Scientific method Lab techniques and experimentation Science Fair projects Connecting chemistry and physics to the real world 	<p>French</p> <p><i>Raconte-moi Encore</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Speaking and listening Conversation/skits Vocabulary Culture Reading Grammar Writing Online language lab <p>Spanish</p> <p><i>Buen Viaje Book 2</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pronunciation Conversations Reading and writing Culture of Spain and Latin America Video Audio CD Grammar Readers <p>Latin</p> <p><i>Latin For Americans</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Grammar Vocabulary Culture Readings

THE ARTS	PHYSICAL EDUCATION	PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS
<p>Performing Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Singing • Acting • Kinesics • Dance • Public speaking • Standard repertoire • Monologue Prep <p>Band</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warm-up and practice routines • Scales • Improvisation • Notation • Music theory • Band leadership • Sight-reading <p>Studio Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Portfolio design • Emphasis on personal content • Advanced techniques—oil painting • Graphic Arts • Contemporary Art History • Modern Art—tour at National Gallery of Art • Cross-curricula connections • Pointillism • Self-portrait • Mural <p>Digital Art</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal yearbook page • Digital Portfolio III • Contemporary art issues • Advanced school newspaper design 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cooperative games • Safety and health issues • Sportsmanship • Sports skills and drills • Sports rules and strategies • Physical fitness • Muscles and function • Speed and agility • Jump Rope for Heart • GHS Physical Fitness Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Science Fair • Math meets and state contests • Middle School fall wilderness retreat • Spring trips • MS Musical • Library Star Reader Program • National Latin Exam • National French Exam • National Spanish Exam • 1:1 iPad • Graduation speeches

Grade Eight: ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS

1. How will I become a respected member of my community?
2. How will I make a difference in my community as a leader?
3. How can I become an active problem solver?
4. What is my academic role in finding a secondary school?

It has been the hope of those who teach in this school to make of it a clear window on the world, so that the children graduating from the school would meet adulthood with the excitement of well-armed challenge, fully enlightened idealism, and the courage of real wisdom.

—Kenton Kilmer, co-Founder

