

Joseph Hubert
Grade Three, Second Place
Jeff Weinhold, Teacher

Dear Cousin Jack,

I am really looking forward to your visit this summer. I think we will have a lot of fun. My life in Franklin Township is very cool. I am sure there are some differences between my town and the big cities you live in. Franklin Township is still very rural and I cannot wait to share it with you. We are planning many fun activities for your visit.

My mom promised we would be able to camp out in the backyard. We have a big tent that holds up to six adults so I am sure we will have enough room, even if Ethan wants to join us. Daddy said he would make a campfire for us.

I like to go hiking on trails in the woods and go fishing in the local ponds, rivers, and reservoirs. I am looking forward to catching some big fish with you. I sometimes go swimming in the local rivers along the trails when my mom allows me. Some of the trails allow us to ride our bikes and I like to see how far we can go. We can also go swimming at the reservoirs but I like the rivers better. We need to wear water shoes to protect our feet.

We live on over three acres. We have a big playset in our backyard that Ethan and I use almost every day. The children that live next door usually come over too or we go to their house to jump on their trampoline. We live down the street from a local airport so we see many different kinds of small aircraft and hot air balloons take off almost every night across the street from our house.

We got a basketball net from Santa and my dad is going to install it soon. It should be ready in time for your visit and we can play basketball in the driveway. We have plenty of sports equipment to play soccer, baseball, lacrosse, and plenty of nerf toys to play with.

Franklin Township has a variety of interesting local wild animals and we like to watch them. We have several bird feeders that attract many different kinds of birds and a hawk has a nest across the street. A family of fox lives on our neighbor's property and we have a lot of bunnies, deer, groundhogs, pheasants, and wild turkeys. We have even seen an eagle near our house! Several farms grow vegetables and have small stands that sell what they grow. Franklin Township also has many well-known horse farms and my mom likes to see the horses.

One of my favorite trips is to take the steam train from Ringoes to Flemington. I like to hear the whistle on the train blow really loud. When we get on the train, the conductor yells, "All aboard". Mommy has us take the train with Daddy in Ringoes, and she picks us up in Flemington.

I cannot wait to see you!

Love,
Joseph