

Liam MacKinnon
Honorable mention, fifth grade
Lynn Johnson (1959-2020), teacher

There are a lot of beautiful places in Franklin Township, but not as beautiful as the one I wake up to. When my eyes open, I see the glimmering sun shining through the curtains. I push aside the curtains and a quick blast of sunlight bounces off my eyes. It's a spring day and I look out the window and see all the flowers blooming, trees swaying, and birds singing. I look up at all the trees towering over, and my eyes spot two squirrels running up and down the tree chasing each other until they're out of breath. Also up in the tree a couple of birds are perched on a branch.

When I'm ready to go outside, I am surrounded by the beauty of nature. All the flowers on the trees are blooming. My favorite tree in my yard is my weeping cherry tree. It has pink color to the flowers. Right past the weeping cherry tree is my favorite plant, ferns. I love the curl at the top of the plants and seeing that bright green burst out into nature. A couple feet past the ferns I spot an enormous cherry tree. It is different from the weeping cherry tree. The flowers are brighter in color.

In the spring, bunches of bright yellow daffodils scatter around the yard. I love to pick them around Easter because they are a perfect decoration for my house. I dash past my little flower garden into the front yard and notice the birds gathered around the birdfeeder. Right beside the garden, there is a combination of different brilliant colors. The bleeding hearts have a nice neon pink brightening up the side of our house. We also have white bleeding hearts that are just as delightful as the pink ones.

We have a gorgeous five-and-a-half-acre landscape that is spacious and perfect to run around with my dogs and play games. In the winter my yard is so charming. All the sharp crystals are hanging from every branch. It's also beautiful when the sun starts reflecting off the crystals. In the fall, when you walk outside, you see all the leaves fluttering to the ground. Since we have a gigantic yard, it is a great place to make a leaf pile. Next to our cool gray barn with a metal roof is our mini-farm. We have goats and chickens and I help to care for them. This area is the best for having farm animals and is just another reason why I love it here so much.

Once all the flowers close and the sun is going down, I look out into the woods and imagine all the animals getting ready for bed. I look up towards the sky and see the beautiful layers of colors, and I am reminded just how blessed I am to be living in Franklin Township.