

TOWN OF SHANDAKEN
Shandaken, New York 12480

Jeff MacNutt
Recreation Director

As project director for Computers For Academic Readiness, I'd like to share with you our vision. Imagine you are a third grader, not a strong reader, and you lived in the middle of nowhere. Your mother works two jobs and still makes sure you are taken care of, but she's never been quite able to help you with "that reading problem." You like school, but can't seem to pull together your book reports and projects the way the other kids do. School ends, what a relief, but mom's always working so it's another summer of hanging out at the rec field and the pool.

But wait, the counselor at camp says you're going to the library for a couple hours to learn about trains. You love trains! At the library, this cool lady shows you how to go on the computer and find these cool color pictures of trains that go over 200 miles an hour. She helps you make copies of them to take home. Then she lets you play a game where you match names and descriptions of rainforest animals to their pictures. Some of the words are difficult, but you learn how to sound them out by using the "help key." It's time to go but you can't wait to come back. Maybe mom will bring you on Saturday. Mom and you are invited to a workshop where she learns how to use the computer too! At the end of summer you go back to school. The teacher asks you to do a project on the rainforest. Suddenly those hard names of tree frogs don't seem hard anymore. And on Saturday, you'll go to the Library and get some stuff for your report.

This is the environment my project partners and I want to create. I hope you share our vision.

Sincerely,



Jeff MacNutt

Recreation Director