

4-H Presentations Program



Did You Know?

- Public speaking is the #1 fear in America
- Alumni rank public speaking as the #1 skill learned in 4-H
- Good posture helps you speak more clearly and effectively
- Public speaking has been a major part of the 4-H program since it first began over 100 years ago
- Your audience wants you to succeed

What

The purpose of the 4-H Presentations program is to provide youth with the activities and tools that teach them how to research, plan, organize, create, and deliver a presentation.

Through a positive learning environment, 4-H youth will be able to develop effective public speaking skills and will be able to practice and perform these skills with confidence.

Why

Being able to speak well in public is a skill that can help you throughout your life. People like Abraham Lincoln, John F. Kennedy, and Martin Luther King, Jr. were known for their speaking ability. They were able to accomplish great things because they had an important message and they had the skills to deliver that message.

Presentations teach, entertain, inform or persuade. Demonstrations and illustrated talks are two types of presentations.

A **demonstration** is a way to teach others, step by step, how to do or make something.

An **illustrated talk** is a useful way to explain a topic using models, posters, or charts.

4-H members have lots of great messages too, and this program helps them gain the skills to deliver their messages.

Communication skills are vital in today's workforce. Practicing these skills helps 4-H members prepare to make the best better.

Where To Find It

Remember	2
General Info	2
Resources	2
Training's	3
Contests	3
Volunteers	4
State Event	4

4-H Presentations Program

Remember - Things to Keep in Mind

All presentation must be prepared for and given by youth. No adult or audience participation is allowed.

Select a topic that truly interests you so you will enjoy both learning about that topic and sharing it with others.

Practice, practice, practice. The more you practice (in front of a mirror, video tape yourself, in front of family, friends, or your club) the better presenter you will become!



A new presentation should be created each year.



General Information

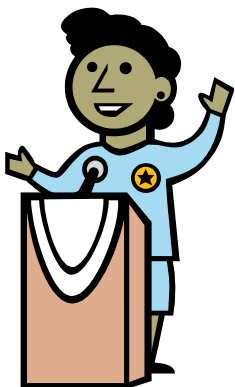
► Cloverbud presentations should be between 1 and 5 minutes.

► Junior presentations are expected to be between 3 and 8 minutes.

► Senior presentations are expected to be between 8 and 12 minutes.

► Presentations may be given by an individual or a two person team.

► Public speaking is considered an advanced skill. Speeches may only be given by individuals (no teams). Competitive speaking classes are only open to senior members.



Presentation Resources

There are a number of different presentation resources available. The following are posted on the state 4-H website (under Volunteer Resources):

- Presentation Guide
- Contest Guide
- Score Sheets
- Speaking Guide

Additional training guides and videos may be available at your county extension office. Please contact your county 4-H agent for assistance in accessing and/or using any of these materials.

Remember, a key element in improving your presentation skills is practice, practice, and more practice.

Regional Trainings

Four trainings will be held in January to teach youth presentation skills and to familiarize them with the general expectations for presentation contests.

These trainings will include some hands on activities and will be led by local 4-H Ambassadors. Role modeling and practice will be part of each training.

There will be one training in each of the following Extension regions: Up-

state, Midlands, Pee Dee, and Savannah Valley. Contact your local county 4-H agent for specific details and complete registration information.

It is strongly encouraged to have at least one member from each club attend a training; then they can conduct a workshop for the other members of their club. Teaching others is a perfect example of practicing presentations skills.



Regional Contests

There will be four presentation contests held in March. These contests will serve as the selection process for participation in the state presentation contest.

There will be one contest in each of the following Extension regions: Upstate, Midlands, Pee Dee, and Savannah Valley. Contact your local county 4-H agent for specific details and complete registration

information.

It is strongly encouraged to have every club participate in the regional contest. It is the perfect opportunity to meet youth from other clubs, learn about other project areas, and to practice and receive constructive criticism on one's all important speaking skills.

South Carolina 4-H Youth Development

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Volunteer Opportunities

There are a number of different opportunities for adults to get involved with 4-H Presentations. The following jobs are available:

- Set up / Clean up
- Room Monitors
- Judges
- Award Organizers
- Scoring / Data Entry
- Runners / Go-For's
- Registration Directors
- Refreshment Coordinators

Instruction is available for each of these positions. Please contact your local County 4-H Agent if you are interested in helping at the county, regional or state events. Remember, many hands make light work!

State Contest



The State 4-H Presentations Contest will be held on Saturday, April 18, 2009, in a (statewide) central location.

In order to attend the state event, you must attend your regional contest and receive a blue Danish ribbon and a county rosette.

Registration for this event must be submitted by the coordinator of the regional contests.

4-H is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service, a nationwide partnership of federal, state and county governments, and the private sector. The Clemson University Cooperative Extension service offers its programs to people of all ages, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital or family status and is an equal opportunity employer.