

# **Communications: The Basics**



The goal in any public speaking experience is for members to complete the presentation with a good feeling about themselves, what they have done, and learned.

Using good resources and organizing your thoughts into an effective and impactful presentation is a useful life skill for successful educational and vocational paths. You will use effective communication skills every day with family, friends, employers, and co-workers.

No matter who you are or where you come from, communication takes practice!

#### **Starting Out**

Learn about different types of 4-H Presentations:

- Project Talk
- Demonstration
- Illustrated Talk
- Extemporaneous Speaking
- Public Speaking

#### **Learning More**

 Use the Presentation Brainstorming Activity to identify and develop a presentation topic.

#### **Expanding Horizons**

- Prepare and give a presentation.
- Record yourself and review to evaluate.

# **Inspire Kids to Do**

### **Skill Building**

- Learn to develop presentation skills and understand the most effective type for your information.
- Practice to improve communication skills.

#### Goals

- Understand different types of presentations.
- Understand how to find information.
- Understand how to organize ideas for a presentation.
- Learn how to prepare visuals to support a presentation.

## **Project Ideas**

- Share your presentation with a school class.
- Have your club work on presentation boards at your club meeting.
- Attend a presentation at 4-H Club Days or the Kansas State Fair 4-H Public Presentations to see how others present.

#### Self-Evaluation Before

Using the rating scale below, answer the following:

1 = not at all

2 = a little

3 = a lot

#### I know how to...

Tell the difference between kinds of talks. ...... 1 - 2 - 3

Brainstorm to identify a presentation topic. ...... 1 - 2 - 3

Prepare and give a presentation.

.....1 - 2 - 3

#### **Communications: The Basics**

#### Challenge Instructions

- Read and review the Kansas 4-H Presentation Overview, then look up two additional resources.
- Use the Presentation Brainstorming Activity to develop an idea for a presentation.
- Use the Kansas 4-H
   Demonstration or
   Illustrated Talk Outline
   Planning Form to organize
   your presentation. Design
   a poster or board for your
   presentation.

#### **Helpful Tips**

- Think about your audience.
   What do you really want them to know when you are finished?
- If your topic is too broad it will be hard to have a focus; if it is too narrow, you may not find enough information for your presentation.
- Be creative in making visual aids, but don't clutter the poster/ display with too much information. You want it to grab the eye and add to your presentation but not be a distraction.

#### Leadership

(Suggested for Intermediate and Advanced Levels.)

- Lead a communication game for recreation at a club meeting.
- Help a fellow 4-H member prepare for their presentation.


Other

# Curriculum and Resources

National 4-H Curriculum – Communications Level 1

Kansas 4-H Communications Project Page

Kansas 4-H Presentation Overview, 4H978

Kansas 4-H Presentation Brainstorm Activity, 4H986

Kansas 4-H Demonstration or Illustrated Talk Outline Planning Form, 4H981

Life	<b>Skills</b>	Learned	(check all	that	appl	v)
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	Positive	Self-Concep	t
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☐ Inquiring Mind

☐ Concern for Community

☐ Sound Decision-Making

☐ Healthy Interpersonal Relationships

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Help another 4-H member	by listening to the	em practice a
presentation.		

- ☐ Teach someone else about presentations.
- $\hfill \square$  Show someone else how to make an effective poster/display.
- ☐ Other \_\_\_\_

# **Evaluate Your Experiences!**

How does this exercise h	nelp you prepare for	a presentation?	
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How does this exercise help your confidence in presenting?

What are two differences between demonstrations and illustrated talks?

What is a benefit of competition within Public Presentations? What is a negative?

**To complete the Challenge,** take a selfie while doing the activity. Upload the photo and take the survey about your Challenge experience. www.tinyurl.com/KS4HChallenge

**Local Contact Information** 

#### Self-Evaluation After

Using the rating scale below, answer the following:

- 1 = not at all
- 2 = a little
- 3 = a lot

#### I know how to...

Tell the difference between kinds of talks. ...... 1 - 2 - 3

Prepare and give a presentation.

.....1 - 2 - 3

#### **Kansas Clover Classroom**

Adapted from NW 4-H Advisory
Challenge created by Michelle Beran,
4-H Youth Development Agent,
Cottonwood Extension District



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