

A close-up photograph of a person's hand in a light blue sleeve pressing a circular elevator button. The button has a white arrow pointing right. Other buttons with different symbols are visible in the background.

Meat the Future

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“What’s Your Elevator Speech?”

Submitted: January 19th, 2024

Have you ever found yourself in a situation where you’re being expected to quickly respond to a question regarding your career, involvement in an organization, etc.? If you’re anything like me, being caught off guard can lead to some stammering and stuttering!

We are starting to prepare to host Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) training sessions across all four counties of the Twin Creeks District. Each year 4-H and FFA youth livestock/animal exhibitors in our district are expected to complete this training which helps shape them into sound animal care takers.

One of the activities that regularly surfaces in YQCA curriculum is the creation of an “elevator speech”. The idea of an elevator speech is to briefly and concisely convey a message of career-related information, educational background, organizational participation or otherwise that answers the general question, “Tell me about yourself.”

YQCA participants are tasked with summarizing questions like “What is 4-H?” or “How do you provide quality care for your livestock/animal projects?” into a short one to two-minute blurb that they can use when asked by the general public about their involvement with these 4-H projects. Although the goal of an elevator pitch is to remain “short and sweet”, a prepared and organized message can aid in building self-confidence of our youth, exercise public speaking abilities and provide a great first impression to the general public.

So, what makes up a great elevator pitch? Here are a few tips in creating your own!

1. Introduce yourself and the topic at hand. Don’t forget the handshake!
2. Make sure your pitch leaves an impact! What do you want your audience to remember? Quick facts and personal story details are highly encouraged.

"What's Your Elevator Speech", Cont.

3. Practice makes perfect! The more opportunities you have to repeat your pitch, the more naturally it will roll off the tongue in impromptu situations.

With that, join us in creating your very own elevator to highlight or promote your passions!

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