



# Judging 4-H Presentations



Demonstrations and illustrated talks are planned presentations by one or two 4-H members that teach information related to a project or activity. Simply put, they are ways of showing and telling others how to make or do something and sharing useful information.

As a judge of 4-H Presentations, you have an opportunity to help 4-H members evaluate their work, to praise them for work well done, and advise them in constructive details about ways to improve their presentations. Our main objective is to help boys and girls have a meaningful experience and to encourage their growth and participation.

The general divisions listed below should be helpful to you in making your judgment of the presentation. In some divisions, one objective may be adequate to achieve the purpose whereas in another division more objectives may need to be considered. For example, to gain audience attention, one or two of the suggested objectives should be adequate. On the other hand, many of the suggested objectives should be followed to get the subject matter of the presentation across.

Please keep in mind that one broad objective of the 4-H Presentation Program is to provide opportunities to help one “make the best better.”

## I. APPEARANCE

### Grooming

- clean
- exhibits good posture

### Appropriately Attired

- dresses appropriately for presentation

### Importance and Currentness of Subject Established

- shows interest in what s/he is doing
- tells why the subject is important
- relates to recent development

### Purpose Clearly Outlined

- what is to be done or taught
- why is the presentation being given

## II. INTRODUCTION

### Attention of Audience Gained

- tells name
- gives club, group, county, or district s/he represents
- uses catchy title
- opens with a question
- states a problem
- wears a special costume
- tells a related joke
- shows a good visual
- interests audience with a completed product

## III. SUBJECT MATTER

### One Central Theme

- has a clear focus
- limits subject appropriately for presentation

### Information Accurate

- presents dependable information from a reliable source

### Information Complete and Practical

- deals with subject adequately in allotted time
- gives audience enough information to appeal
- makes presentation practical and adaptable in a given situation

### Appropriate to Age Level

- subject matter appropriate to age and experience

### Degree of Difficulty

- complexity of subject matter
- elaborateness of presentation

## IV. PRESENTATION

### Visuals Appropriate and Attractive

- neat and attractive
- uses simple design, readable
- size appropriate to situation

### Visuals Incorporated into Presentation Smoothly

- emphasizes key points
- gives background or supporting information
- visuals not overused to make presentation boring
- reviews and summarizes clearly

### Voice Clear and Understood

- speaks slowly enough to be understood
- seems to be conscious of what s/he is saying
- projects voice so all can hear
- uses correct English
- chooses words wisely
- refrains from distracting mannerisms

### Audience Sees Action

- keeps area clear of unnecessary items
- uses enlargement or model if needed
- holds items up for viewing
- does not block audience view
- tilts mirror over work area if needed

### Logical Sequence

- shows planning
- follows logical order
- stresses key points

### Vocal and Visual Communications Coordinated

- each step made clear
- works smoothly and easily
- coordinates “show and tell” well
- keeps reasonable eye contact with audience

### Supplies and Equipment Coordinated

- sets up and checks equipment
- handles equipment and visuals with ease
- identifies equipment
- explains use of equipment

### Avoids Problems or Handles Emergencies Well

- handles emergencies without becoming upset

### Uniqueness of Presentation

- shows imagination and creativity

## V. SUMMARY

### Major Points Re-emphasized

- briefly summarize key points
- reminds audience of subjects importance
- describes how s/he has benefitted from this knowledge
- reminds audience of how they may benefit from this knowledge

### References

- tells audience where information was received
- show interest in using reliable information

## VI. ACHIEVEMENT OF PURPOSE

### Audience Appeal

- appealing to persons interested in subject
- stimulates audience to want to pursue it further

### Educational Value or Quality of Finished Product

- serves as an appropriate example
- teaching value of demonstration, “Did you learn?”

### Purpose Carried Out

- How well did the 4-H'er do s/he started out to do?

## VII. QUESTIONS ANSWERED APPROPRIATELY

- uses a logical approach to answer
- answers clear and logical
- keeps composure

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