4-H Public Speaking

Time Lengths and Subject/Topic
4th grade 2 to 3 minute
5th grade 3 to 5 minutes on any topic
6th, 7th, & 8th grades 3 to 7 minutes on any topic
9th-12th grades 3 to 7 minutes must be related to 4-H

You may use note cards (3” x 5” or 5” x 7”)
DO NOT use any props/No Costumes!
DO NOT read your speech. You will lose many points this way!

A good speech will have three basic parts:

Introduction - Start out with a statement to get everyone’s attention. Ask a question, tell a funny joke or story that relates to your topic, share a startling statistic or fact, or use a quote. Your introduction should include the topic of your speech. Avoid saying your name.

Body - There are many ways to organize the body of your speech. Use clearly numbered points, such as, “there are three reasons why we should participate in a service project.” Or explain why one event is caused by another, for example, “the number-one killer of teenagers is car accidents...what causes this tragic loss of life?” Sometimes the speech might be organized in an order. You might give the audience suggestions for how they can help or improve the situation you have shared in your speech.

Closing - The closing should relate to the introduction. Use it to remind the audience of the main points. The closing will be the last thing the audience remembers. Make it count.

Judging will be on the following:

The Speaker
- Appearance: 10 pts
- Use of Language: (Good pronunciation, vivid, meaningful, articulation, grammar) 20 pts
- Projection to Audience: (Volume, clear, distinct, pleasing voice, eye contact) 10 pts
- Well Prepared: 15 pts

Subject Matter and Composition
- Well Organized: 10 pts
- Information: (Accurate, complete, up-to-date, appropriate) 10 pts
- Good introduction and conclusion: 10 pts

Results
- Effect on audience: 15 pts

Questions: Call the UT Extension Sequatchie County at 949-2611
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Web: http://sequatchie.tennessee.edu