

Types of 4-H Presentations

Demonstration

A demonstration puts words into action. An effective demonstration teaches others how to do something by showing while telling. *At the end of a demonstration, you should have a finished product to show to your audience.* How to bake a cake or how to build a model are examples of demonstrations. If it will take too long to finish, like a cake that has to bake, bring a finished product with you. Note cards may be used.

Illustrated Talk

Illustrated talks are given using a series of slides, pictures, or other visuals. They show how to do something, illustrate a process or present information. While visuals must be used in an illustrated talk, no finished product is required. When preparing an illustrated talk, organization and preparation of visuals is a must. You could decide to do an illustrated talk instead of a demonstration for any number of reasons including the following:

- Project is too large or too small to display during a demonstration, like how to build a bridge or sew on a button.
- Subject calls for development over months or years, like a science project.
- Animals necessary might be frightened by the audience or are too large to use.
- You are simply presenting information or teaching a lesson.
- You are teaching a skill, such as how to dribble a basketball or play an instrument.

This might also be considered a demonstration because you are showing as you are telling, but you do not have a finished product. The score sheet is the same for demonstrations and illustrated talks and both involve organized props. Note cards may be used.

Formal Speech

A formal speech may be written by the presenter or be the work of a noted individual and given from memory. Brief notes or an outline on index cards may be used as an aid. Visuals aids are not used to illustrate the information being presented.

Performing Arts

Performing arts public presentations incorporate dramatics (published or original monologues and group scenes), oral interpretation of literature may be read, creative movement and dance, musical performance (instrumental and vocal), and puppetry. Most of the performing arts categories can be presented as a solo or group presentation. The presenter introduces the performing art, performs, and concludes with a summary of the performance including an invitation for audience feedback. If this is a group performance, only the speaker is judged as a presenter.

Team Presentations

Presentations can be given by teams. When trying to decide if you want to present as a team, be sure your topic can be done with two or more people and the information can be divided into parts. Team presentations are a good way to learn team planning and cooperation. However, they are more difficult to prepare and practice. Each team member must give an equal portion of the total presentation. This gives the audience a contrast in voice and personality. *4-H Team Presentations may have no more than two members.*