

4-H Communications Projects

A communications program is a long-standing tradition in at all levels of 4-H Youth Development programs. As part of these programs, members are able to deliver a speech on experiences at an event, give a banquet address, lead a community service project, demonstrate skills associated with project work, or show a younger member how do a project-related task.

Participation in Talk Meets and Demonstration Contests helps 4-Hers master communications skills, become more independent, gain a sense of belonging and generously share this expertise.

Youth develop organizational skills by learning the logical way to prepare a speech or present information through a demonstration. Competitive events give youth the opportunity to practice what they have learned and receive positive, constructive suggestions to improve. Critical thinking skills are also improved during the organizational process.

Standing up and delivering a speech or presentation develops independence and confidence in youth. These experiences help youth overcome the fear of speaking in public. Members know that success is due to their preparation and presentation skills.

Speaking in front of a large group or only a few individuals with ease gives people a sense of belonging and the opportunity to bond with other youth and adults. Many doors are opened in terms of personal friendships and professional advancement.

When youth master skills, gain independence and develop a sense of belonging, they want to share these. This often comes in the form of initiating and leading a service project in the community or helping other youth in various ways. Generosity such as this is an innate part of all aspects of our 4-H Youth Development program.

A broad range of communications expertise is a vital skill for today's youth and tomorrow's adults. 4-H Youth Development helps youth improve their quality of speech and association with others whether one-on-one in a job interview or a keynote address in a banquet hall.

The Pendleton County Extension Office will be holding our Communications Project (aka Speeches and Demonstrations) on February 26th. To participate, you must RSVP by February 11th. For more information on this or any of our other programs, contact the Pendleton County Cooperative Extension Service.