



# Public Speaking

Georgia 4-H Project Achievement empowers young people with skills for a lifetime. Through a competitive process, students explore their interests, unleash their creativity, share their work, and celebrate their achievements! This guide provides 9th—12th graders with examples for getting started with their project exploration.

## Description of Project:

4-H'ers may explore the process and act of speaking to a group in a structured and planned manner intended to inform, influence, or entertain an audience. Through this project 4-H'ers may:

- determine appropriate styles of speaking for various audiences and purposes
- organize material for a speech in a careful and deliberate manner
- develop a pleasing voice and appearance appropriate for the audience and topic
- speak convincingly in public
- analyze a speaker and speech for effectiveness and appropriateness
- explore careers in the area of public speaking

## Overview:

- ⇒ Choose project
- ⇒ Develop skills in:
  - Project
  - Leadership
  - Service
- ⇒ Prepare portfolio for work completed from January 1—December 31
- ⇒ Prepare presentation
- ⇒ Practice
- ⇒ Compete
- ⇒ Reflect

## Examples of Project Development Experiences:

- Develop informative, persuasive, and entertaining speeches and presentations incorporating information from fact-based research and effective quotations from inspirational and/or professional people as needed for the purpose of the speech
- Research famous speeches and the impact of those speeches in history, government, business/industry, religion, and society
- Analyze speeches and presentations for introductions/hooks, key points, and summaries
- Observe speeches and presentations of professional public speakers, such as news anchors, radio announcers, government leaders, and inspirational figures

## Project Sharing and Helping Examples:

- Organize a public speaking project club to teach younger members how to develop and present an oral speech or presentation for different purposes, including informative, persuasive, or entertainment
- Develop and present an informative speech to local civic groups
- Speak at a fundraising event with the goal of persuading others to contribute financially to a worthy cause (i.e., 4-H programming)
- Evaluate and critique speeches/presentations of younger 4-H'ers in preparation for Project Achievement; provide constructive criticism to encourage improvement
- Present speeches or presentations for classes at school
- Compete at a literary event based on speech, presentation, dialogue, or monologue; coach others on the team
- Organize a youth-led program or assembly at your school, and teach others the best practices of public speaking
- Organize and coordinate an extemporaneous speaking activity at a club meeting; constructively discuss ways each speaker could improve

## Recommended Resources:

- [Georgia4h.org/ProjectAchievement](http://Georgia4h.org/ProjectAchievement)
- [usnpl.com/ganews.php](http://usnpl.com/ganews.php)
- [grady.uga.edu/academics/adpr/](http://grady.uga.edu/academics/adpr/)
- [speakersleague.com](http://speakersleague.com)
- [comm.uga.edu](http://comm.uga.edu)

## Special Considerations:

- Practice internet safety when communicating with new people online
- Be respectful of other cultures
- Live animals and weapons are not permitted
- The Public Speaking project utilizes a separate score card comprised of general appearance, projection, voice control, pronunciation and enunciation, language effectiveness, organization of contents, overall quality, and length of presentation.

## At Competition:

*Public Speaking projects have access to a podium to deliver their speech. The time limit for these speeches is 10 minutes. Computers, projectors, screens, and other technological devices are not permitted in this project.*

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Sources:

The University of Georgia CAES. 2016. Project Achievement. <http://www.georgia4h.org/projectachievement/>

