



4-H VOLUNTEER INFORMATION SERIES

Nebraska 4-H Youth Development

See! You did it!

(A life skill activity to help organize and deliver a talk.)

The life skill objectives of this activity are for youth to organize and deliver a talk. The preparation includes organizing material, presenting information, and gaining courage.

Introduce the Activity

Here is a box with lots of small items that you will know something about. You are to select an item, take a few minutes to think about your item, and tell us about the item you selected.

What to Do

Select an object/item and prepare a short, brief talk about the object/item. Talk about what you find in the box. (See suggested list on page 3.)

Do the Activity

1. Have the group members individually select an item or topic from the box.
2. Allow a short amount of time for each to prepare talk.
3. Form small groups of four to five 4-H'ers in each group where each 4-H'er can talk about the selected item/topic.
4. Ask for volunteers to talk about their item/topic to the entire group/club. Continue until all have given their talk.

Talk it Over

Use some or all of these questions to help 4-H'ers learn from the process they just experienced.

1. How did you feel when you saw your item/topic?
2. What did you do to get ready?
3. What changes did you make before you gave your talk the second time?
4. Why did you make those changes?
5. How did you feel while you were up in front of the group(s)?

Process with These Questions

1. What changes did you make the second time?
2. What were you doing when you gave your talk a second time?
3. Was your audience listening to you? What clues did you have?
4. What have you just done?

Alternative Processing Technique

After each 4-H'er has given her/his talk in the small group, have an adult/parent work with each group and use the questions in the "Talk It Over" and "Process with These Questions" sections to discuss their first experience.

Generalize

1. How are you using those skills now?
2. How will you use this process tomorrow, or next week and in the future?

Apply

1. Where else in 4-H can you give a speech or talk?
2. When you think about adults, who gives speeches?
3. Realize that for most adults, giving a speech is one of their greatest fears.
4. Congratulations! You did it! Let's have a big celebration because you have given a 4-H presentation. (Give each participant some form of recognition, like a stick of gum to acknowledge what they accomplished—giving a talk.)

More Challenges

Here are some additional ways you can use the skills of giving a talk/presentation in 4-H:

1. Give a formal presentation to this 4-H club.
2. Prepare a formal presentation for the County 4-H Communication Contest.
3. Volunteer to introduce others at a club or county event.

Did You Know

No one can get up in front of a group and give a well organized speech or presentation without preparation. Every speaker has to select a topic, organize the information about the topic that they want to share, think about the audience, practice the speech, give or deliver a speech/presentation, and finally do some evaluation of how well they did. These are the basic steps you can use every time you have to give a talk in 4-H, school, or any other place. Remember, for most people, speaking in front of a group is a scary experience. But by following these steps, you can do a good job of making a speech or presentation.

Suggested Items for the Box

Here is a short list of items that you could put in the box to be chosen by the 4-H'ers. Look around your kitchen, your shop or workroom, or your child's room for other ideas.

- A set of measuring cups/spoons
- 2 to 5 different postage stamps
- Shoe string (with or without a shoe)
- Several different buttons
- A comb
- Scissors
- Package of cocoa
- Hammer
- Pliers
- 2 to 4 different nails
- 2 to 4 different screws
- Empty cereal box
- Several coins
- Neck tie
- Slips of paper with the following instructions:
 - Introduce a friend to another person
 - Welcome a guest into your home