



Educational Presentations/Public Speaking Contest Memo

Date: Friday, April 5, 2024

Location: Texas A&M University-Commerce
Rayburn Student Center
2200 Campbell Street
Commerce Texas 75428

Check-In: 10:30 a.m.

Orientation: 11:00 a.m.

Contest: Begins following orientation

Registration. Each participating member is required to register on 4-H Online (<https://texas.4honline.com>) and pay the \$12.00 registration fee. Registration will open on March 6, 2024 and closes at midnight on March 20, 2024. No late registrations will be accepted.

Participation. Participants must be active 4-H members enrolled in a Texas 4-H and Youth Development County program in District IV and be eligible to compete according to UIL rules. The top 3 senior entries in each category will qualify for state.

Age. Age divisions are determined by a participant's grade as of September 1 of the current 4-H year. Age divisions for this contest are:

Junior	Grades 3, 4, 5
Intermediate	Grades 6, 7, 8
Senior	Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

Entries Per County. Each county may enter an unlimited number of teams/individuals per age division listed above.

Eligibility. Educational Presentations may be an individual effort or conducted by a team of two 4-H members.



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Originality. Educational Presentations **MUST** be the original work of the 4-H member. 4-H members may **NOT** share/utilize the same presentations delivered by other members/siblings/family members.

Topic Subject: Subjects in the educational presentations should address emerging or current issues in each of the contest areas. Some contests provide a suggested list of topics that the educational presentation may cover along with a resource list. Senior contestants are encouraged to research these emerging and/or current issues to develop presentations.

Accuracy of Information/Resources: With the computer and internet being used heavily in educational presentations, 4-H members must know the difference between research and non-research based information. Contestants are required to use information that is factual and can be supported through adequate documentation. Examples of such websites are federal, state, and local governments, independent research sites, and Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service websites. Internet information that is questionable includes personal documentation sites, chat rooms, message boards, etc. 4-H members must prepare a list of references (i.e. bibliography, works cited) for their presentation.

Subject Matter: The skills and knowledge used in any 4-H contest should be the result of experiences in a project in which the member has participated. A presentation must relate to the contest entered, contain current information, and not be better suited for another contest. It should also be appropriate for the member's age and experience. Appropriate credit must be given for references used.

Time Limits: A time limit of 12 minutes will be allowed for each educational presentation. An additional nine minutes will be provided for on-stage arrangements and cleanup in connection with the presentation. A penalty of two points per minute or partial minute overtime will be deducted from the final score. Following the presentation, there may be up to 5 minutes of question and answer period by the judges.

Visuals: The use of charts, photographs, computer graphics/programs, and other visual materials are permitted. Visuals should contribute to the presentation. Each presentation is an example of the participant's ability to communicate an idea. No firearms, weapons, fireworks, open flamed burners, live ammunition or live animals are allowed to be used by a contestant in any Roundup contest.



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However, posters and pictures of such items are allowed and encouraged. We encourage all visuals to be appealing to the audience and easily read/seen by the audience. Choose your visual taking that into consideration.

Judges' Questions: Judges may ask contestants questions at the end of their presentation. Following the presentation, there may be up to 5 minutes of question and answer period by the judges. Only official judges and superintendents may ask questions of the contestants.

Score Sheets: 4-H Educational Presentation Score Sheet, V 2023 will be used by contest judges in scoring educational presentations regardless of presentation style (method demonstration, illustrated talk, or speech). Separate score sheets are used in public speaking. All score sheets are available on the Texas 4-H Youth Development website.

Judges' Gifts/Handouts: Gifts of any kind MAY NOT be presented to the judges in any contest. Handouts may be made available to the entire audience.

Use of Firearms, Weapons, Fireworks, Open-Flamed Burners and/or Ammunition: No firearms, weapons, fireworks, open-flamed burners or live ammunition are allowed to be used in any Roundup contest. However, posters and pictures of such items are allowed and encouraged. No items and/or props that are combustible, flammable, or under extreme pressure can be used in any Roundup contest. These include camp stoves, propane tanks, and/or open flames.

Live Animals, Insects, and Reptiles: No pets or live animals/insects/reptiles are permitted for use by contestants in a contest. Service animals are permitted in accordance with ADA regulations. If you have questions on other items that may not be allowed, it is highly recommended you contact the local County Extension Agent and/or the District IV Extension Program Specialist – 4-H Youth Development.

Service Animals: Service animals that are individually trained to do work or perform tasks for persons with disabilities are permitted at the event. Non-service animals are not allowed. Comfort or emotional support animals are not service animals.



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Equipment. There are limitations or recommendations for juniors and intermediates as it relates to equipment and visual aids. Outlined below are the age-division specific rules for educational presentations:

Juniors	Intermediates	Seniors
No computer aided/projected presentation equipment allowed. Posters and an easel are a suitable and recommended alternative. Props and other visual aids are allowed.	Computer aided presentation equipment is allowed, but posters are highly recommended and encouraged. Props and other visual aids are allowed.	Any type of presentation equipment, props, and visual aids are allowed (if also allowed by state rules).

Participants are required to bring 100% of their own equipment (props, posters, easels, personal computer, visual aids, extension cords, etc.), with the exception of a screen and table, which will be available in each presentation room.

Take into consideration that Internet connectivity may not be available. Be prepared to incorporate any video or other graphics that may require Internet to be directly embedded in the presentation. Make sure the image/video is included as part of the thumb drive or method used to provide your presentation to the contest Superintendent/Coordinator.

Contest officials will not have any equipment such as computers, projectors, or video adapters available. It is the contestant's sole responsibility to secure and bring all necessary equipment, and to know how to operate and troubleshoot it.

FYI to Senior Contestants that advance on to Texas 4-H Roundup.....All presentations must be in some form of Microsoft Office (PowerPoint, Word, or Excel). All fonts used must be true type. These fonts specifically include Arial and Times New Roman (See Texas 4-H Roundup Rules & Guidelines for more information).

Contest categories/divisions. Contestants will be assigned rooms (as best as possible) by age divisions and categories.

Awards. 1st through 5th place rosettes will be awarded. 1st – 3rd place winners in each Senior Category will advance to Texas 4-H Roundup.

Participants with Disabilities. If you need any type of accommodation to participate in this program or have questions about the physical access provided, please contact Denita Young at 972-952-9252 or djyoung@ag.tamu.edu at least 2 weeks prior to the program or note such needs when registering on 4-H Online.

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension provides equal opportunities in its programs and employment to all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, genetic information, veteran status, sexual orientation, or gender identity. The Texas A&M University System, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the County Commissioners Courts of Texas Cooperating.



District IV 4-H Youth Development Program

Resource Links. <https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/events/roundup/>

Educational Presentations Resources. [Guidelines](#) | [Categories](#) | [Score Sheet](#)

Public Speaking Resources. [Rules](#) | [Project Page](#) | [Score Sheet](#)

TEXAS 4-H EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION CATEGORIES

Before selecting your category, make sure the presentation does not fit better in another educational presentation category. All presentation categories have been updated with what we hope are more clear descriptions.

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

The relationship between agriculture and natural resources is essential because agriculture relies heavily on natural resources like fertile soil, water, and sunlight. Sustainable agricultural practices aim to manage these resources in ways that ensure their long-term availability while minimizing negative impacts on the environment.

Topics could include:

- Topics related to agriculture:
 - Practice of cultivating plants for food, fiber, medicinal plants, and other products used by humans.
 - Farm and ranch economics
 - Meat science
 - Dairy cattle
 - Topics related to activities such as planting, growing, harvesting, and managing crops.
 - Ag technology
 - Farm Safety
 - **Topics related to the breeding and raising of livestock or small animals should be under those specific categories: Beef, Sheep & Goats, Swine, Horse, Animal Science**

- Topics related to natural resources:
 - Entomology
 - Forestry
 - Range Science
 - Water Conservation
 - Horticulture
 - Wildlife & Fisheries
 - Shooting Sports
 - Soil & land management
 - Outdoor education
 - Environmental Stewardship
 - Food Production and Food Security

- Other ANR field of study

Youth will relate information to knowledge or skills learned in the field of Agriculture and Natural Resources. **Note : You must choose only one category but Ag Technology related topics could be submitted under the STEM category. Farm Safety related topics could be submitted under the Safety & Injury Prevention category.**

ANIMAL SCIENCE

The topic focuses on the study of animals that are **smaller in size and often kept as pets**, including but not limited to dogs, cats, rabbits, guinea pigs, and birds. This presentation aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of various aspects related to the care, behavior, health, training, and well-being of small animals.

Topics could include:

- Anatomy and Physiology
- Nutrition
- Housing and Enrichment
- Healthcare and Preventive Medicine
- Behavior and Training
- Reproduction and Breeding
- Common Diseases and Vet Care
- Pet Selection and Responsible Ownership

Presentations focused on large animals must be entered respectively in the Beef, Sheep & Goats, Swine or Horse category or those focused on Wildlife should be in the Agricultural and Natural Resources category.

BEEF

A beef educational presentation pertains to the delivery of information regarding a range of relevant subjects, both present and future-oriented, that encompass:

Advanced reproductive technologies

- Animal Husbandry
- Effective nutritional management practices
- Optimal animal health strategies
- Considerations in breeding and genetics
- Behavioral insights in beef cattle
- Understanding beef carcasses and end-products
- Analysis of production costs
- Fundamental aspects of overall herd management
- Insights into cattle marketing strategies

These presentations may be tailored to specific sectors within the beef industry, including cow-calf, stocker, or feedlot segments. The aim is to provide comprehensive knowledge to individuals engaged in beef production and management, enabling them

to make informed decisions that enhance the efficiency, sustainability, and profitability of their operations.

FAMILY AND CONSUMER EDUCATION

Family and Consumer Education (FCE) is a subset of Family and Consumer Sciences (FCS) that specifically focuses on educational programs and initiatives aimed at enhancing the knowledge, skills, and well-being of individuals and families. The subject matter of Family and Consumer Education encompasses a range of topics designed to empower individuals with practical life skills, promote healthy family dynamics, and contribute to the overall betterment of society.

Topics should be centered around improving the well-being of individuals and families by addressing various aspects of daily life. Topics can include, but are not limited to:

- Life skills education
- Family dynamics and relationships
- Financial literacy and management
- Consumer education and decision making
- Nutrition and healthy eating
- Culinary arts and food science
- Fashion and interior design
- Home management and organization
- Parenting and child development
- Consumer education and decision making
- Communication and Conflict Resolution

Please review the description for Health & Wellness and Safety and Injury Prevention for topics pertaining to those subject areas.

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Health and wellness refer to the state of well-being that encompasses physical, mental, emotional, and social well-being. Health and wellness involve the conscious pursuit of optimal health through lifestyle choices, practices, and attitudes that promote vitality, resilience, and a high quality of life. The topics covered encompass a range of subjects relevant to youth health and wellness, encouraging active living, and chronic disease prevention.

Topics could include:

- Physical Activity and Exercise
- Mental Health and Stress Management
- Sleep Health
- Substance Abuse Prevention
- Disease Prevention
- Heart Health

- Environmental Health
- Preventing the spread of the cold and flu / Covid-19
- Body Image and Self-Esteem

Presentations should focus on healthy lifestyles, chronic disease prevention and wellness, not illness/treatment. It is suggested that project experiences in this area include topics aimed at youth health/wellness, the promotion of active living, and chronic disease prevention.

Please review the description for Family Consumer Education and Safety and Injury Prevention for topics pertaining to those subject areas.

HORSE

The educational presentation aims to encompass the theoretical and hands-on proficiencies acquired within the 4-H horse project. The presentation can cover various aspects of horse care, management, training, and usage. It aims to provide both theoretical understanding and practical insights to the audience. The goal is to empower the listeners with valuable information and techniques that they can apply in real-life scenarios involving horse projects, such as improving their ability to care for horses, manage their well-being, enhance their training, and make informed decisions about horse-related activities.

Topics could include:

- Breeds
- Anatomy
- Nutrition
- Health and Veterinary Care
- Behavior and Training/Showmanship
- Grooming and Maintenance
- Tack and Equipment
- Housing and Facilities
- Riding Skills and Techniques
- Breeding and Reproduction
- Equine Careers
- Ethics and Welfare
- Horse-Related Legislation and Regulations
- Equine Industry Trends

These topics provide a well-rounded understanding of horse care, management, and horsemanship, catering to both newcomers and experienced individuals in the 4-H horse project. The presentation aims to empower participants with the knowledge and skills needed for responsible horse ownership, successful project management, and participation in horse-related activities.

OPEN

This category serves as an option for youth participants when their presentation does not align with the predefined categories. This category enables participants to showcase their unique ideas, creativity, and skills. It encourages innovative thinking and provides an opportunity for youth to explore subjects that are important to them even if those subjects do not fit within the existing educational presentation category.

Make sure your topic does not fit better within another category before selecting Open.

PROMOTE 4-H

Participants are encouraged to select a target audience not affiliated with 4-H and exhibit a promotional approach that effectively communicates the principles and values of the 4-H program. The presentation should demonstrate their marketing and promotional skills by effectively showcasing and explaining the essence of 4-H. The presentation serves as a delivery method to enhance the visibility of 4-H among audiences in and outside the 4-H community.

SAFETY & INJURY PREVENTION

An educational presentation on safety and injury prevention addresses the importance of safeguarding oneself from potential hazards and minimizing the risk of injuries. This presentation aims to inform and educate the audience about strategies and practices that contribute to their well-being in various environments, including home, school, work, and recreational settings. The goal of this presentation is to empower individuals with information and tools that enable them to make informed decisions, minimize risks, and create safer environments for themselves and those around them.

Suggested presentation topics include:

- Safety Awareness
- Safe Practices
- Home Safety
- Fire Safety
- First Aid/Emergency care
- Transportation Safety
- Digital Safety
- Recreational Safety
- Emergency Preparedness
- Farm Safety

Please review the description for Family Consumer Education and Health and Wellness for topics pertaining to those subject areas.

Note : You must choose only one category but Farm Safety related topics could be submitted under the Safety & Injury Prevention category.



SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND MATH (STEM)

This presentation aims to illuminate the synergies between STEM disciplines by examining how technology, research, and cutting-edge ideas converge, it fosters an understanding of the ways in which scientific advancements can revolutionize methods, boost efficiency, and address contemporary challenges in the field. Through this exploration, the presentation seeks to inspire an appreciation for the dynamic relationship between STEM evolution.

- Biotechnology
- Ag technology
- Biogenetics
- Bioengineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Space Exploration and Astrophysics
- Green Energy and Sustainable Technologies
- Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR)
- Cybersecurity and Data Privacy
- Robotics and Automation
- Coding and Programming

Note : You must choose only one category but Ag Technology related topics could be submitted under the STEM category.



SHEEP AND GOAT

A sheep and goat educational presentation involves providing information on a wide array of pertinent subjects, encompassing both current and forward-looking aspects related to the raising of sheep and/or goats, as well as the utilization of their meat, milk, or fiber. These presentations can include discussions on:

- Animal Husbandry
- Reproductive technologies
- Effective practices for nutritional management
- Optimal strategies for animal health
- Considerations in breeding and genetics
- Behavioral insights specific to sheep and goats
- Analysis of production costs
- Fundamental elements of comprehensive herd management
- Insights into marketing strategies for sheep and goats
- Reproduction and breeding techniques

These informative sessions can be tailored to focus on either sheep or goats or both, and topics may span various aspects, such as diverse breeds, lambing or kidding and

care of ewes and does, wool production and processing (if applicable), and approaches to marketing lamb meat and wool products.

 **SWINE**

Swine related presentations can cover a diverse range of topics, from basic swine anatomy and breeds to advanced swine management practices, ensuring that attendees gain valuable insights into every aspect of swine care and production.

These presentations can include discussions on:

- Animal Husbandry
- Breeds
- Anatomy
- Nutrition
- Health and disease management
- Behavior/handling
- Market trends
- Reproduction and breeding
- Housing
- Market trends/economics

These presentations should provide a comprehensive exploration of swine care and production, covering topics from swine breeds and anatomy to advanced management practices, fostering a deeper understanding of the world of pigs for participants of all levels of experience.

The category of Ag Technology and Farm Safety was discontinued for 2023-2027. Those presentations that have been entered in this category in the past, will still have a place under either Ag & Natural Resources, STEM, or Safety and Injury Prevention.

Score Sheet for Educational Presentations

Name: _____ County: _____ District: _____

Age Division: (Check one) _____ Junior _____ Intermediate _____ Senior

Category: _____ Order in Room: _____

Presentation Title: _____

Time: (Max 12 min) Start Time: _____ End Time: _____ Elapsed Time: _____

(Check the Box for which Quality Scale that applies)					
	Needs Improvement	Fair	Good	Excellent	Superior
Subject Matter (50%)					
Presentation Appropriately related to Category: (5%)					
Selection of Subject: (15%)					
Practical - Is the subject important to the project area and to the 4-H member?					
Reason for Choice - Why did the 4-H member choose this topic? This can be implied in talk.					
One Basic Theme - Is the presentation confined to one theme or is it so broad in scope that it cannot be covered in the allotted time?					
Accurate, Up-To-Date & Complete, Appropriate: (20%)					
Information is correct					
Up-to-Date - Is it the most current information to which the 4-H member would have access or is obsolete information given?					
Complete - Are all the steps in the process shown? Is the information adequate to cover the topic?					
Appropriate for Experience - Is the presentation appropriate to the experience of the 4-H member?					
Knowledge of Subject & Related Skills: (10%)					
Understands principles and practices presented.					
Questions adequately answered.					
Presentation (30%)					
Introduction: Effective, interesting. This is an explanation of the presentation, not an introduction of the 4-H member. Does it get the attention of the audience? Is the purpose of the speech clearly stated? If the importance of the subject established? (5%)					
Audience Appeal – Did the 4-H member maintain the attention of the audience? If using visuals were they readable throughout the room? Did they interact with the audience, use voice inflection, etc. to keep interest. Was it something of interest?. (5%)					
Visual Aids: Equipment, models, charts, and supplies effective and well arranged. Choose the teaching aid to best tell the story. Charts and models neat, concise, large enough, & appropriate. Visual aids utilized in presentation. (5%)					

Presentation (Continued)	Needs Improvement	Fair	Good	Excellent	Superior
Logical Sequence: Well organized, clear, logical steps. Evidence shows the 4-H'er has planned presentation. (5%)					
Verbal Presentation – Is the presentation well-coordinated? Has the 4-H organized the presentation to create a smooth flow of information? If the 4-H member is doing a demonstration, does the explanation match the process? If information is given is it to fill time during the process; is it related to what is being shown? (5%)					
Summary: Key points summarized. Reliable sources used and cited. (5%)					
Stage Presence (20%)					
Appearance & Poise: Neat, well groomed, good posture, appropriately dressed for task being performed. Calm, pleasant, confident; keeps composure when something appears to go wrong or does go wrong. Self-assured, yet pleasant manner. (10%)					
Voice & Grammar: Distinct, forceful, yet natural. Clear voice with distinct enunciation & reasonably strong. Enthusiastic. Correct, well-chosen words. Not memorized. Use correct grammar with clear meaning. (10%)					

Provide constructive feedback:

Judge's Initials _____