

# 4-H Project Demonstrations For 4th & 5th Grade Members

Join the fun! Share your skills! Presenting a demonstration gives you a chance to share something you have learned with your class. Be sure it is a teaching moment.

## Guidelines to Follow

1. In a demonstration, you should both **show** and **tell how** to do something. You may also show how to make something or how something works. Choose a topic that is neither too complicated nor too simple. **All topics must be approved by your teacher.**
2. All 4-H members must do individual demonstrations. No partners allowed.
3. Both **posters** and **project materials** (props) should be used in a demonstration along with the **spoken script (speech)**. Posters are highly recommended but not required.
4. Do Not use live animals or babies. Do Not use audience participation. Do Not use videos, DVDs, or power point programs. Do Not use tri-fold boards instead of posters. Do Not bring any items that are prohibited at school.
5. No paper-folding crafts. They are too simple.
6. Your demonstration should be **no more than 3 minutes** long.
7. A good demonstration has three main parts: Introduction, Body and Conclusion.

# Steps in Planning and Giving a Demonstration

## 1. Planning

- Choose one simple idea that you are comfortable teaching
- First, plan the **Body** by listing the steps involved in the demonstration. Write an explanation to go with each step. Plan how to show each step.
- Plan the **Conclusion** next, restating the main points. Be sure to show the finished product if you have one and give the source of your information.
- Then, plan the **Introduction**. This should introduce your topic, not you. Select a catchy title. Think of an opening statement that lets your audience know what you are demonstrating and the purpose of your presentation.
- If your demonstration has a number of steps that require some "waiting time" in between the steps, plan to bring examples of the project at each stage in the process. This is often the case with crafts or foods, and will require more materials. This is how you can show the whole project within the time limit.

## 2. Preparation

- Make a list of all materials and equipment needed. Gather these supplies.
- Posters are highly recommended, but not required. If you choose to make posters, we suggest using this guide (**No** tri-fold boards).
  - Title Poster
  - Supplies Poster - or list of ingredients or materials.
  - Directions Poster – or steps to follow.
- Letters and pictures should be large enough to be seen across the classroom.
- Prepare demonstration according to your plans.
- Make sure your information is correct and that you include your source.
- Remember time limit: **under 3 minutes**.
- Practice! Practice! Practice!



## 3. Presentation

- Check and re-check to make sure you have everything you need.
- Don't introduce yourself; just start with your topic introduction.
- Remember to speak slowly and clearly. Be yourself!
- Smile! Look at your audience whenever possible.
- Keep your working area neat and clean. Remember to keep all bowls, boxes, etc. to the side of you and "work" in the center. Have towel ready for any messes.
- Tell your source of information and show a finished product if you have one.

# Demonstration Organizer

How to \_\_\_\_\_

Materials

Introduction

Steps

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

\*Use as many steps as you need.

Conclusion

**Remember:**  
Demonstration must be completed in 3 minutes or less

## Are you ready to give a demonstration in your classroom?

You can give your demonstration on any topic you choose if your teacher approves of it! Remember some materials are difficult to bring to school, plan so you can be successful. Look over the guideline and use your organizer to pull it all together. **Below is the list of what we are looking for in your demonstration.**

|  |
|--|
| <b>Poise, Posture</b>                                  |
| Calm, pleasant, confident, at ease                     |
| Good posture   |
| <b>Voice and Expression</b>                            |
| Pitch, volume, speed, tone, rhythm                     |
| Clear pronunciation                                    |
| No long pauses, no "extra" words<br>(um, uh, you know) |
| Audible at all times, distinct, natural voice          |
| Enthusiastic, personality shows through                |
| Speaker captures and retains audience<br>attention     |
| Good eye contact                                       |
| Appropriate gestures, body language                    |
| <b>Demonstration</b>                                   |
| Introduction   |
| Steps, materials and explanation<br>coordinate         |
| Up-to-date, accurate, relevant information             |
| Organization   |
| Teaching Aids/Staging of Materials                     |
| Adheres to time limits                                 |
| Conclusion   |



**Remember:**

**Your demonstration  
should be completed  
in 3 minutes or less.**

The Coffee County 4-H Speech contest will be held April 2025.  
Participants will be selected and notified at their February 4-H meeting.