Planning and Delivering Your 4-H Project Demonstration
Planning for Your 4-H Project Demonstration
Choosing a Topic

What projects am I taking?

In the project areas above, what is something that I can easily demonstrate?
(Visualize yourself showing a friend how to do something you have learned through a 4-H project.)

Can I narrow the topics above so that I can thoroughly cover the subject matter in about five minutes?
(For example: broad topic = preparing beef for show; narrowed topic = preparing beef’s hooves for show.)

Who is my audience?

1. How old are the people who will listen to my demonstration?

2. What have I listed above that might interest them?

3. How much do they know about the topics I listed above?

After considering my knowledge of my 4-H projects and thinking about the interests of my audience, I think I will show how to ____________________________ (narrowed topic) for my 4-H demonstration.
Planning for Your 4-H Project Demonstration

Unique Title: _________________________

Preparing the Content

To get my audience’s attention:
• I’ll tell a short story about the topic. OR
• I’ll report an astonishing statistic or say something else that will surprise my audience. OR
• I’ll ask a thought-provoking question.

Then I’ll state the purpose and narrowed subject of my project demonstration.

Introduction

Now I should divide the important information that I want to share into steps for performing the activity.

Body

1.
2.
3.
4.

To finish, I’ll chose one or more of these ideas:
• Re-emphasize main points.
• Call for an audience action.
• Show the benefit of others doing this activity.

I must remember:
• Be brief.
• Make my project demonstration sound finished.

Conclusion

Ask for Questions

Catchy Wrap Up Statement

Your 4-H project book can help you prepare the content. But don’t copy sentences; use your own words.
Preparing the Delivery of Your 4-H Project Demonstration

Make note cards if you like to use them.

Introduction

Note card one

Body

Step 1.

Note card two

Step 2.

Note card three

Step 3.

Note card four

Step 4.

Note card five

Conclusion

Note card six

If you don’t have note cards, make your own from notebook paper.

Also make note cards for trays containing materials so you don’t forget anything that you need!
At home, practice delivering your project demonstration.

- Don’t read your demonstration, but try using the note cards to remind yourself what you want to report.

- Don’t memorize your demonstration, but have key steps highlighted on the note cards so that you don’t leave anything out.

- Use a conversational tone; visualize yourself showing this activity to a friend.

- Speak distinctly, carefully pronouncing words.

- Organize materials well, and move them from left to right when you are finished with them.

Deliver the project demonstration at the 4-H meeting.

- Remember you are talking to a group of friends!

- Stand tall and show confidence.

- Use your note cards to keep you organized.

- Keep your materials organized and always keep them on the sides of the demonstration area unless you are using them.

- Speak loudly enough for all to hear.

Relax and enjoy the process!

You are the expert!
Of course you will have visual aids when you do a demonstration, but in addition to what you need to show the activity, you might also want a poster or picture.

Sometimes a large visual aid—such as a chart, poster, picture, model, or graph—can help explain information more quickly and clearly than words can. If you are doing a food demonstration, for example, you probably want a poster with the recipe.

If a large visual aid will help you and your audience as you demonstrate an activity, follow these rules as you prepare and use it.

**Preparing a visual aid:**

- Prepare a visual aid only if it will help you impart information more easily than you can by only showing the activity.
- Make it large enough so that everyone in the audience can easily see/read it.
- Keep it uncluttered and simple: too much information will be distracting.

**Using a visual aid:**

- Show visual aids only during the part of the project demonstration when they relate to what you are saying. Take them down when you move to another part of your demonstration.
- Tape a poster or chart on a nearby wall, put it on a stand, or have a friend hold it for you.
- Point specifically to the part of the visual aid you are referring to.
- Don’t hide behind a large visual aid; instead, stand beside it.
Suggestions for Food Demonstrations

Preparation:

- Prepare a recipe to pass out to each person in the audience.

- Prepare an easy-to-read poster with the recipe and any additional information you want on it.

- Pre-measure ingredients into clear containers that the audience can see through.

- Organize containers and utensils on trays according to the steps in the recipe.

- Make sure your clothes are spotlessly clean; an apron is optional.

- Pull your long hair back away from your face.

During the demonstration:

- Mix ingredients in a clear mixing bowl.

- Move containers and utensils on one side and move them to the other after use; if you are finished with a tray of ingredients, move the tray to the other side or set the next tray inside the old one.

- Tell the nutritional facts about the food you are preparing—share the food groups represented, the number of calories per serving, etc.

- When you are finished, show the final product. If you display a serving in a place setting, position utensils so the audiences can see the place setting properly in the mirror.

- Prepare a serving for the judge.