

PUBLIC PRESENTATION TIPS FOR PARENTS

You, as a parent are a key person in making your child's 4-H membership a successful and rewarding experience. One of the times in 4-H when your child needs extra support is during the Public Presentation program. Your son or daughter will be spending a great deal of time in the coming weeks getting ready.

There are several things you can do to help:

1. Show an interest.
2. Suggest topics: allow your child to choose a topic. If he or she is having trouble, offer some suggestions of things you know your child has an interest in.
3. Give generously of your support and encouragement that will help build confidence and excitement in your 4-Her. You may have to eat fruit salad for three weeks or listen to an illustrated talk on the anatomy of a horse a dozen times or relive the family trip. It is worth it for what your child gains from doing a 4-H presentation.
4. BE PATIENT. A great deal of practice is needed before a child feels prepared and confident to go before an audience. Encourage your child to practice and offer to be an audience. You can help by listening carefully and offering constructive criticism and PRAISE.
5. Attend the Public Presentation event with your child. Come with your child. Stay and watch the other presentations in the room for encouragement to your child and others. Your smiling face in the audience usually will have a calming effect on your child.
6. Help make the experience meaningful. Together review the evaluation sheet with your child after the presentation. PRAISE THE THINGS THAT WERE DONE WELL and help him/her to understand and develop a plan for improving aspect that need improvement "TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER."

