



# 10 Steps to an Awesome 4-H Presentation!



1. **Choose a topic**—a sport, a hobby, a favorite athlete, something you already enjoy or something you'd like to learn more about. Choose anything except junk food.
2. **Narrow your topic** to something you can cover in 4 to 6 minutes. For instance, choose “how to take care of a puppy” instead of “all about dogs,” or “Jeff Gordon” instead of “NASCAR.”
3. **Research your topic.** Be sure to use reliable, research-based information whether you are looking at books, magazines, websites, or other locations. You can also interview an expert, such as an electrician for an electricity project. **Do NOT use Wikipedia.**
4. **Organize your information** into main ideas. You may have two or more, depending on your topic. (“Materials” and “Steps” to build a birdhouse; “Background,” “Music” and “Awards” for a music group, etc.)
5. **Write your speech,** starting with the **main ideas**. If you can talk for about a minute and a half on three ideas, you're set! **Do not consider reading an article straight from the internet. This is plagiarism, which means cheating or stealing someone else's work. You must write your own speech.**
6. **Write the introduction:** something interesting about your topic, your name & school, and a summary of what you're going to talk about. Catch our attention!
7. **Write the conclusion:** a summary of what you just told us, and maybe another fun fact about your topic to leave everyone with a smile.
8. **Make posters.** You need a title poster and at least one poster listing your main points. Be sure photos, illustrations or diagrams are large, writing is neat (or typed), and that everything can be seen clearly from the back of the classroom. Do not put entire sentences on your posters.
9. **Gather props** and anything else you need for your project, such as note cards for your speech. Some demonstrations will not have any props, but others (like dog care, sports, or crafts) are much easier to understand with visual aids.
10. **Practice, practice, practice!** Practice in front of a mirror, video camera, dog, baby brother, parents, friends... remember that practice makes perfect!

