

# EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATIONS



An educational presentation is a fun way to share information with others about your 4-H project. You can give an educational presentation by yourself or with one of your 4-H friends.

## Entry

- Enter as an individual or a team that is comprised of two members of the same 4-H age division.

## County Entries

- Each county may enter three contestants or teams per age division per category.

## Contest Orientation

- Orientation will take place in the hallway, outside the contest rooms, at 8:30 am on Day 2 (before the first presentation).

## Contest Topic Categories

All presentations should address current or emerging issues related to the topic category.

- *Agriculture Technology & 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.
- *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.
- *Beef* - Current or future subjects that address reproductive technologies, nutritional management, health, breeding and genetic considerations, behavior, beef carcasses and end-products, production costs, general management aspects, or cattle marketing. Presentations may target cow-calf, stocker, or feedlot industry sectors.
- *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.

- *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.
- *Horse* - Presentation is to cover the theory and/or practical skills learned in the 4-H horse project and should be appropriate for presentation at a 4-H club meeting. After hearing the presentation, the audience should be able to put information into practice to improve their production, management, training, or horse use/knowledge and/or skills.
- *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 categories.
- *Promote 4-H* - The purpose of this contest is to encourage 4-H members to develop promotion and marketing skills as they market and interpret 4-H through various types of media and presentations, increase the promotion of 4-H to non-4-H audiences in Texas, and increase the number of people who join and support the 4-H program. The 4-H promotion should convey a contemporary image of 4-H in a changing society. Promotional methods include: radio, television, illustrated talks, method demonstrations, newspaper, posters, projected images, exhibits, photographs, slide/tape presentations, puppets, PSA's, speeches, drama, skits, videos, computer programs, etc.
- *Safety & Injury Prevention* - Youth will relate information to safe equipment designs and safe procedures or methods associated with the prevention of accidents in work, home, or recreational environments. Topics may include accident prevention when operating motor vehicles, boats, home, farm or yard machinery. Also included are safety topics on handling chemicals and animals and prevention of accidents relative to falls, fire, electricity, hunting and natural disasters. Suggested presentation topics: drinking and driving, distracted driving, personal safety, ATV safety, agri-terrorism, general farm safety, pesticide safety, natural disasters (flooding, tornadoes, hurricanes, drought, etc.).
- *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.
- *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.
- *Swine* – Swine related presentations can cover a diver 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.



### **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.

### **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 Come Alive contest. However, posters and pictures of such items are allowed and encouraged.

### **Video, Audio and Display Equipment**

- Contest officials will provide laptops, screens, extension cords and projectors.
- If using a computer, be sure the presentation is 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.
- If contestants decide to use any other program or fonts, they will be responsible for bringing *all* equipment that is compatible with their presentation.

### **Time Limits**

- A time limit of 12 minutes will be allowed for each presentation.
- A penalty of 2 points per minute over time will be deducted from final score.
- Judges' questions will be limited to 5 minutes.

### **Scoring**

- See the 4-H Educational Presentation scorecard in the Appendix for scoring criteria and areas of focus in which interview/judges' questions are generated.

### **Study Guide**

- See the publication "4-H Educational Presentations" for additional information on this contest at [https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/educational\\_presentation\\_guide\\_2025.pdf](https://texas4-h.tamu.edu/wp-content/uploads/educational_presentation_guide_2025.pdf)