

Finding Your Way to Senior Project Achievement

7 Steps that will get you to
Rock Eagle for the District Competition



The road to Project Achievement

- Select a project area from list
- Prepare and submit a portfolio
- Narrow down subject matter from project category for presentation
- Research and prepare speech
- Decide upon visuals
- Practice



Project Achievement basics

- High school 4-H'ers are judged on two elements – presentation 50% and portfolio 50%
- Portfolios are scored separately from the presentation
- Portfolios can contain activities that are not specifically related you your speech topic

Step # 1

- Select a project area – refer to the project list
<http://www.tinyurl.com/clarke4h>
- Most require an informative speech
- Exception:
 - Food Labs
 - Performing Arts
 - Fashion Review



Step # 2

- It's time to work on the portfolio!
- The next 11 slides will guide you through the requirements of the portfolio
- Starting early is great, it will allow you to get suggestions from 4-H staff to improve your document

What is a portfolio?

- A document that lists the activities in which you have participated for the calendar year
- Most of the portfolio is a bulleted list
- There are specific categories to use
- Two pages of supporting materials which can be pictures showing you involved in the activities that you list



Portfolio basics

- Portfolios must be typed on white paper
- Margins must be at least ½ inch, font should be 10 point or larger
- Portfolio is six pages:
 - Letter of introduction from yourself to the judges
 - Two typed pages of accomplishments
 - Two pages of supporting materials
 - Cover/certification page



Sections of the Portfolio

- Cover/Certification Page
 - Letter of Introduction (page # 2)
 - Main Project Work
 - Main Project Sharing & Helping
 - Leadership
 - Citizenship
 - Other Activities
 - Supporting Materials (pages # 5 & 6)
- Contained on two Pages (3 & 4)



Letter of Introduction

- Your introduction of yourself to the portfolio judge
- May include info about you, your family, reasons for joining 4-H
- How you became interested in you project
- Include your plans for the future, especially if they involve your project



Main Project Work

- Work that you have done related to your project area
- Can include school classes that pertain to subject
- Learning experiences in project
 - Classes, lectures, workshops, tours, etc.
 - List books, videos, or TV shows that relate to your area



Main Project Sharing & Helping

- How you have used the knowledge gained in your project area
- Includes sharing/helping others as relates to the subject
- May include:
 - Classes taught
 - Presentations
 - Exhibits
 - Project related community service



Leadership

- Any leadership activities not included in main project area
- Holding office, serving on committees, etc.
- Activities are **NOT** limited to 4-H
- Use verbs such as: **helped, led, organized, or taught** to tell what you did

Citizenship

- Any community service activities not listed under main project
- Activities to assist an individual, group, or organization
- Activities which will improve the community
- Not limited to 4-H

Other Activities

- Anything else you have done not listed elsewhere in the portfolio
- Can include:
 - School clubs, events
 - Other 4-H activities such as judging teams
 - Church activities
 - Youth groups such as scouting
 - Sports teams

Supporting Materials

- Pictures or articles which document the activities listed in the portfolio
- Photos may be staged such as:
 - Feeding or walking dog (category dog care)
 - Setting table or cooking, grocery shopping, clipping coupons, etc. (food category)



Portfolio Due Date

- Be aware of the deadline to turn in portfolios to the Athens-Clarke 4-H office. It is usually the same as the last day of school prior to the December holiday break.

Don't wait until the last minute. Lets get started today!

Step # 3

- Time to turn your attention to your project/presentation
- Narrow your subject within your category
- Research/gather information to write your speech



A Good Speech Contains:

- **Introduction** - Hook the audience, introduce yourself, tell them what your speech will cover
- **Body** - The facts that you want to tell the audience about your subject
- **Conclusion** - Summarize your main points, refer back to your opening hook, leave your audience wanting to hear more or take action



Time Requirements

- A senior presentation should be 10-12 minutes in length
- Exceptions:
 - Performing arts – 4 minutes maximum
 - Public speaking – 10 minutes maximum
 - Food labs – have specific time limits for each project
 - Fashion revue – model garment that you have made and answer questions



Step # 4 – Visual Aids

- A visual aid is something your audience can see which helps the understand your subject.

Examples:

- Posters
- Pictures
- Items
- Showing how to do something



Poster Pointers

- Big and simple is best. Words should be read from the back of the room
- Main ideas or phrases
- Use plain, easy to read type
- Dark colors for type, light colors for background



Step # 5 - Practice

- Know your material and make sure you can pronounce all words
- Speak clearly and distinctly
- Stand tall and straight
- Make eye contact with audience
- Use or interact with your visuals



Step # 6

- Make an appointment and come to the 4-H office
- Present your speech to one of the 4-H staff using your visuals
- Make any changes that are recommended

Step # 7

- Pack your bags!
- You're on your way for a weekend of competition and fun 4-H activities at Rock Eagle
- Northeast District Project Achievement is usually in March (check with ACC 4-H staff to confirm date)

