

Finding your way to Junior Project Achievement

7 Steps that will get you to the district competition at Rock Eagle in March



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

- Juniors are judged on two elements – presentation 60% and portfolio 40%
- Portfolios are scored separately from the presentation
- Portfolios can contain activities that are not specifically related to your speech topic

Step # 1 – Select a project

- Select a project area – refer to the project list: [junior project achievement information](#)
- Most require an informative speech
- Exception:
 - Food Labs
 - Performing Arts
 - Fashion Revue

Project List

Obtain a current project list. 4-H updates projects from time to time. Visit our web site to make sure you have an up to date project list. There are fifty-five projects from which to choose. There's something for everyone!

Step # 2 – get your portfolio ready

- It's time to work on the portfolio!
- The next 13 slides will guide you through the requirements of the portfolio

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
- One page of supporting materials which are pictures showing you involved in the activities that you list



Portfolio basics

- Portfolio is four pages:
 - cover
 - two typed pages of accomplishments
 - one page of supporting materials
- Portfolios must be typed on white paper
- Margins must be at least ½ inch, font should be 10 point or larger



Sections of the Portfolio

- Cover
- Background Information
- Main Project Work
- Main Project Sharing and Helping
- Leadership
- Citizenship
- Other Activities
- Supporting Materials

Contained
on two
pages



Portfolio Cover

- Cover page contains your name and basic information such as age, grade, etc.
- The 4-H office will provide you with the cover page for your portfolio
- 4-H'er and parent sign the cover page

Background Information

- Usually in paragraph form
- Your introduction of yourself to the portfolio judge
- May include information about you, your family, reasons for joining 4-H
- How you became interested in your project

Main Project Work

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

Main Project Sharing and Helping

- Includes sharing/helping others in your project area
- 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 or group
- Activities which will improve the community
- Not limited to 4-H

Other 4-H Activities

- Anything else that you have done in 4-H not already listed in portfolio
- Can include judging teams, summer camp, contests, reward trips, etc.
- In school 4-H club meetings
- Portfolio workshops



Other Activities

- Anything else you have done not listed elsewhere in the portfolio.
- Can include:
 - School clubs, events
 - Awards, honors
 - 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

- Note the published deadline for portfolios to be turned in to the Athens-Clarke County 4-H office. It will usually be the last day of school before Christmas break.

Don't wait till the last minute. Let's get started today!

Step # 3 – write your speech

Time to turn your attention to your project/presentation



After the Portfolio is submitted

- Narrow your subject within your category – example in the Entomology category:
 - Are cicadas older than you?
 - How to make an insect collection
 - Do mosquitos make you sick?
 - How to control fire ants in your yard
- 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 junior presentation should be 7-9 minutes in length
- Exceptions:
 - Performing arts – 4 minutes
 - 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 them 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 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 – meet with 4-H staff

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

Step # 7 – Let's go to Rock Eagle

- 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 office to confirm date)