

Taming the Public Speaking Monster Teaching Plan

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Prep for Activities – You may use any or all of the activities listed below. Prepare the materials for the activities you plan to use:

1. Re-create the Public Speaking Monster by cutting out its colored pieces. Laminate these and attach velcro or tape to the back. (See slide 7 of the PowerPoint)
2. Prepare brown paper sacks with items in them for the “Presentation in a Bag” activity. Use the suggestions below or create your own that are appropriate for your age of audience. Items and/or tasks that would be good to use include:
 - Fingernail Polish – How to paint fingernails or toenails
 - Fingernail Clippers – How to trim fingernails or toenails
 - Crayons and a coloring book – How to color a picture
 - Windex and paper towels– How to clean a window
 - Balloons – How to blow up and tie a knot in the balloon
 - Stapler, Paper and staple remover – How to staple a papers together and remove a staple
 - Hammer, Nails and a small 2x4" Board – How to hammer a nail in a board
 - Belt – How to put on a belt
 - How to shake hands (just a note in the bag is all that will be needed)
 - Sunglasses, glass cleaner, eye glass cloth – How to clean sunglasses
3. Copy the “Creature Cards” and make additional copies of the instructions for groups to use in preparing their presentation. Make enough copies so that there is enough “Creature Cards” for each child or group of 2-3 children.

Introduction:

Begin by asking questions about public speaking:

- Who loves public speaking and enjoys getting up in front of a crowd?
- For those who do not like speaking in public, why do we dislike it?
- What are some skills that we need to have in order to be a good public speaker?

Today we are going to work on Taming the Public Speaking Monster by equipping you with the skills you need to plan, prepare, and present a speech. Public speaking is one

of the biggest fears of many people.

Lesson Outline:

- Slides 1-6: Overview of preparing a speech.
- Slide 7: Assemble the Public Speaking Monster using volunteers from the audience while you expose each part of the monster on the PowerPoint. Discuss each part and how it relates to the parts of a presentation.
- Hand out the Public Speaking Monster handout so that participants can add the details on what each part of the monster represents as it is presented.
- Slides 8-12: Detailed overview of the parts of a presentation.
- Slide 13: Hands-on Activities—Conduct Activity 1 with the entire group. You may want to divide a large group into several smaller groups and have them conduct the activity within their group. Have the group select the best presentation to perform before the entire audience. Activities 2 and 3 – choose one of these activities to conduct or if time allows, use both! Another option is to divide participants into teams of 2-3 individuals and give each team one of the activities to perform—either Presentation in a Bag or Creature Cards.

Instructions for Activities on Slide 13:

1. Alphabet or Number Lectures: Have participants take turns "lecturing" the class by reciting the alphabet or counting to fifty. Without having to think about what they are saying, the students can concentrate on making eye contact, gesturing for emphasis, and moving around the room. Give them the goals of putting different inflections on the letters or numbers, as though they are really saying something, and of meeting each classmate's eyes at least once. As an extended challenge, have them add an opening or closing of their own creation. The "lecture" might go like this: *"Welcome, and thank you for coming to this presentation. A, BCD! E, F, G, H? I, JKL- M. NOP! Q, R, S, T, UVW? X. Y, Z? Thank you so much for your attention. Are there any questions?"*
2. Presentations In A Bag: Provide each team of 2-3 participants with a bag that contains a speaking topic item(s). Using the outline discussed for presentations, provide approximately 15 minutes for teams to develop their presentation. Give each team an opportunity to present their speech. *(If needed, shorten or lengthen the time for preparation)*
3. Creature Cards: Provide each team of 2-3 participants with one of the "Monster Cards." Each card is a new creature that their team created through the magical world of science. Their assignment is to develop a presentation that will introduce their new creature to the world! Here are some of the things they should cover in

their presentation:

- Creature's a scientific name and what it is (is it a mammal, reptile, amphibian, marsupial, etc)
- Describe their creature (size, teeth, fur, scales, nose, claws, color, tail, etc)
- What does the creature eat?
- Where does the creature live?
- What sound does it make?
- What survival characteristics does it have? (Flies, swims, runs, digs, camouflages, fights, etc.)

Additional Public Speaking Activities

The following activities may be used in place of any of the activities in the lesson plan or if time permits, included in the workshop.

Source: Wukey, Tom (1995). *Five Star Mind: Games and Puzzles to Stimulate Your Creativity and Imagination*. Doubleday, Canada.

Sixty-Second Stories

Have youth improvise for one minute about how they might deal with the following situations. Have them describe what they would do if this happened to them. Remind them to be creative and have fun! Use a timer like a horn or whistle to let them know when their time is up.

- You's been set up on a blind date by a friend. You've seen a picture of this person and know that he/she is very attractive. It's a few minutes before your date arrives and you walk into the bathroom to discover you have a huge pimple on your nose. What would you do?
- You are a fashion model in the dressing room making a quick change and are due on the runway in a few moments. As you slip on the outfit, you rip off the left sleeve. What would you do?
- You have a 4-H swine project. You and your Dad built a pig pen to keep your two pigs in out by the barn. One morning when you go out to feed, when you open the gate, the pigs push past you and take off across the pasture. What do you do?
- Your best friend has gotten a cool surprise for your birthday but you still don't know what it is. The friend tells you that the surprise is scheduled for Saturday and he/she will pick you up at 10:00 a.m. to go get the surprise.

On Saturday, you go with your friend and you end up at a bungee jumping site. What do you do?

- You're a member of the space shuttle crew and just as you enter orbit, you realize you've forgotten something very important. What do you do?
- You have baked a cake for the Pecan Bake Show and are on your way to enter your cake at the fairgrounds. On your way out the door, you trip and the cake falls on the floor. What do you do?
- You are the lead character in the Share The Fun skit and on the day of the performance, you begin to get a rash. The show must go on, even though you are itching all over! What would your performance look like in this situation?

Sixty-Second Speeches

Have youth improvise for one minute on one of the following topics. They must defend the statement and give reasons why they support it. Use a timer like a horn or whistle to let them know when their time is up.

An alternative to this activity would be to select two youth and appoint one to be for the topic and one to be against the topic. Time them on debating the topic for 2 minutes or less.

- Diamonds are wonderful, but it's better to wear unpolished rocks.
- It is far more important to get an education in music and art than it is to concentrate on reading and writing.
- It is not okay for children to play with matches.
- Chicken Little was absolutely correct: the sky is falling.
- I am really from the future, 1,000 years from now.
- There is no question that the television is the best invention ever.
- People over age 75 should not be allowed to drive.
- Red is the worst color in the rainbow.
- Everyone in the world should be required to speak at least two languages.
- The most important project to be involved in through 4-H is leadership.

- There really is an Easter Bunny.
- Community service is not an important part of 4-H.
- Snickers candy bar is the very best candy bar in the whole world.
- Drinking coffee after 8:00 p.m. will keep you awake all night.
- The best political party is Democrat.
- It is not important to wear a life jacket the entire time you are in a boat.
- A 3 ring binder is better to use for school than a spiral notebook.
- Fast food is the best invention ever!

Mysterious Questions

Pose these questions to youth and give them up to one minute to answer the question. Use a timer like a horn or whistle to let them know when their time is up.

- What are the three most important things the leader of a country does?
- What does it really mean to be beautiful?
- If you could travel back into history and live there for a period of one year, what three items would you take with you? Why?
- If you could have dinner with anyone in the world, living or dead, who would that be with? What would you want to ask them?
- What are two impossible things – events that simply could not happen?
- How can you tell if someone is not telling the truth? What are the signs?
- Do dreams really mean anything? Where do they come from?
- Who has more fun – men or women? Why?
- What is the one thing that you are most proud of learning though 4-H? Why?
- What is the best award that you have ever received? Why is it so special to you?

- Where did your name come from? Were you named after anyone?
- If you could take a trip anywhere in the world, where would you go?
- If you could travel into outer space, which planet would you like to visit? Why?
- What is the best quality of a true friend?
- What was the most special gift that you have ever received from anyone? Why?