



4-H Quick Tips - Project Achievement

A FEW RULE REMINDERS

Cloverleafs:

- Competitors must be at least 9 years old on January 1 of current 4-H year.
- Demonstrations or illustrated talks are limited to 6 minutes maximum with a five minute set-up time. (Performing Arts is a minutes, Cloverleafs)
- May bring up to three (3) 4-H'ers regardless of gender per project, except Foods labs. You may bring two
- 4-H'ers in the Foods Lab projects.
- Participants may not bring certain items including live animals to PA. Refer to General Information in the Cloverleaf section of the 4-H Awards Guidebook. (www.georgia4h.org/public/more/guidebook/default.htm)

Juniors:

- Competitors must be in the 7th grade and not have completed the 8th grade on January 1 of current 4-H year.
- Competitors must have completed and submitted a portfolio in a chosen project by the state due date. The 4-H year is August 1 - July 31.
- Participation ends at PA. Juniors do not participate in State Congress.
- Demonstrations are limited to 10 minutes maximum with a 5 minute set-up time. (see exceptions in 4-H award guidebook.
- May bring up to four (4) 4-H'ers regardless of gender per project to PA except in Foods Lab projects. You may bring two 4-H'ers in the Foods Labs Projects.

Seniors:

- Competitors must be attending classes in the 9th grade or above, and must not have passed their 19th birthday on January 1 of the current 4-H year. Contact your 4-H PDC for clarification.
- Demonstrations are limited to 12 minutes maximum with a 5 minute set-up time. There are a few exceptions. See the Georgia 4-H Project and Activity Guidebook for these.
- Competitors must have submitted a Senior Port-folio in a chosen project area by the due date. No previous State Winner in a project is

eligible to compete at PA.

- Three Seniors from a county may compete at PA in any Senior Project. This can be three girls, three boys, or any combination of girls and boys.

GENERAL TIPS

- Once you have all your 4-H'ers assigned to a specific project area, STOP. Go no further in advising them until you have checked out the 4-H Project & Activity Guidebook at www.georgia4h.org/public/more/guidebook/default.htm.
- Look up the Rules and Regulations for the age group you are working with. You may be surprised to find that there have been several changes in the project area as well as in the procedure. (All changes are highlighted in green on the web page)
- The Guidebook is continuously revised. Updates are posted online.
- It is a good idea to print a copy of the project requirements and objectives in the Award Guidebook and give to Junior and Senior competitors so that they have their own source of information to use. Even Cloverleafs can benefit from this.
- Usually counties have many Cloverleaf 4-H'ers to prepare for PA. Call in volunteers, Collegiate 4-H'ers and teen leaders to help with Cloverleafs.
- Refer to the Junior/Senior Project Notebook for ideas for project work, project clubs, demonstration topics, etc.

Here's How:

1. Recruit 10 volunteers who like kids, follow through well, and will say yes. Recruit from 4-H alumni. They are already trained.
2. Conduct a training session that focuses on helping 4-H'ers develop illustrated talks and creating visuals to support their thoughts.
3. Ask your volunteers or Teen leaders to commit 10 hours toward helping 3 to 5 Cloverleafs prepare for competition.
4. Give volunteers names, phone numbers, emails, etc. of 4-H'ers.
5. Send out a letter to parents explaining the process or start a Project Achievement Parent Booster Club.

6. Make frequent phone calls to check on their progress and offer help. Use new technology such as text messaging, email or free calling services to help! Also utilize volunteer and teens to help!
7. Don't try to do it all alone and deprive volunteers or teen leaders of this fulfilling opportunity.

MORE TIPS-

- Recruit technical help for junior and senior competitors. For example, find a local photographer to help the photography project kids get prepared.
- Have a demonstration practice day. Let competitors do their demonstrations, videotape them, have local judges critique and make comments. Share the project scorecards with 4-H'er, parents, teachers etc. so that they can see judging criteria and better prepare for it.
- Send home their own video or CD/DVD. They can work on presentations with their parents input.
- Send letters to principals making them aware of youngsters from their schools who are competing.
- Suggest to teachers/principals that they give 4-H'ers extra credit for participating in PA.
- Teachers might allow 4-H'ers to give their demonstrations in class for practice.

WHAT THE JUDGES LOOK FOR

- Neat appearance
- A clear delivery without overuse of notes
- Visual aids that contribute to the demonstration
- Presentation of facts in logical order
- Accurate information in sufficient detail
- Observation of time limits
- The ability to show knowledge of subject by answering judges' questions
- Projects placed appropriately (according to Guidebook)

WHY DO WE DO PA?

- Project Achievement provides an out-of-county educational experience for 4-H members of all ages and serves as a means for encouraging 4-H Project work.
- The PA process not only helps youngsters to acquire an understanding of certain subject matter but also develops skills in researching, assembling, and presenting information. As added bonuses, 4-H'ers have the opportunity to gain poise and self-confidence as well as an understanding for healthy competition and

good sportsmanship.

- When 4-H'ers complete a 4-H project and are recognized for their extra efforts, they learn that the world rewards productive behavior. We, in Georgia 4-H, believe that is a real beginning toward the development of responsible, contributing adults.

LOGISTICAL ITEMS TO TAKE CARE OF:

- Transportation to the event
- Money to pay for your county delegation
- Form 100 A's and B's for all participants
- Poster carriers to cover posters in case of rain
- Easels, camera, film, computers discs
- Index cards, tape, magic markers, scissors, pointers, poster repair kit, CD's, DVD's, jump drive, etc.
- One certified and screened volunteer to attend PA for every 5 youngsters so you can oversee and judge at the event.

RESOURCES IN COUNTY OFFICE / OR ONLINE

- 4-H Project and Activity Guidebook (online)
- PA issue of Friends
- Official Project Letter from State 4-H Office (posted at www.georgia4h.org)
- PA letter from your District 4-H Program Development Coordinator
- Junior Portfolio Materials
- Senior Portfolio Materials
- Junior / Senior 4-H Project Notebook
- 4-H FISH Sharing site
- 4-H DPA WIKI

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Written by Cheryl Varnadoe, Extension 4-H Specialist
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Special thanks to 4-H Project Achievement Think Tank
Jenny Jordan, Chair