



Learning, Leading, Living

Youth on Stage

Mission Mandate/Project**Connection:**

Citizenship/Building Bridges

Topic:

Public Speaking

Life Skills:

Communication

Audience:

4-H youth of all ages

Length:

15 - 20 minutes, depending on the number of participants

Materials Needed:

- PowerPoint set-up
- Mini-Karaoke slide (samples attached). The choice of the slide is important. They should be something with which all youth in the club would be familiar.
- Low tech option: pictures on a flip chart stand

Advance Preparation:

- Chairs set up around tables in a rectangle works well for this activity.

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BACKGROUND

One of the many positive things that adults say when they look back on their 4-H experience is that they gained skills in public speaking.

In this activity, youth will have the option to participate in an extemporaneous speaking activity.

WHAT TO DO

Initiate a discussion about public speaking, and encourage youth to share their experiences.

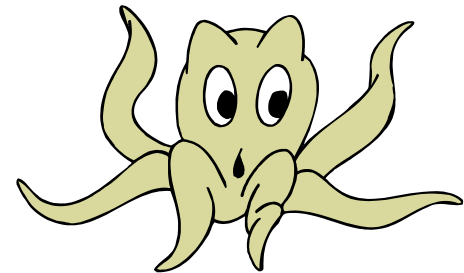
Ask the youth to share what they know about the three parts of a speech: Introduction, Body, and Conclusion. To help youth apply the information, put a slide up on the screen, and ask for suggestions as to an introduction. Then move on to suggestions for body, and finally, conclusion.

Explain that in this activity, each youth will, in turn, introduce themselves by saying their name. At that point, the youth will have the option to request a mystery mini-Karaoke PowerPoint slide. If they so choose, a slide will be put up on the screen, and they are to speak for 30 seconds or so about the picture on the slide.

This is an activity in which youth should feel comfortable to opt out if they so choose. Here are instructions that allow them to do that:

If you want to try Karaoke, after you introduce yourself, say, "Slide, please."

If you'd rather leave the public speaking to the next guy, just say, "Pass, please!"



TALK IT OVER:

Reflect:

- Did you have any idea about what you were going to say before the slide came up? What strategy did you have (if any)?
- What about the audience – did you think of what you might say if you were the speaker?

Apply:

- Can you think of a plan (strategy) that might prepare you for any slide?
- How might mini-Karaoke PowerPoint prepare you for club leadership?
- Where else might you use your public speaking skills?

ENCOURAGING YOUTH LEADERSHIP:

Work with youth leaders to choose pictures for the mini-Karaoke PowerPoint. Discuss criteria for choosing pictures that will help ensure that younger members feel successful.

ENHANCE OR SIMPLIFY

The next step for youth who like the challenge of mini-PowerPoint Karaoke is, of course, PowerPoint Karaoke, which will consist of a set number of slides (five works well). With PowerPoint Karaoke, encourage participants to think about the parts of a speech: Introduction, Body, and Conclusion.



Sample Pictures







