## 4-H Speaking Contest

The Speaking Contest is an annual event that promotes communication and allows youth to feel comfortable speaking in public. Cloverbud participants will each get a participation ribbon and feedback. Participants in 3rd grade and older will be competitively evaluated on their presentations. All participants will also receive a county fair premium as part of their county fair premium check in the fall, rather than former cash prizes.

Youth who wish to participate need to pre-register at least one week before the contest. Participants need to contact the UW-Extension Office if they are not able to attend after registering.

Categories include:

* Traditional Speech
* Interpretive Poetry or Prose

Categories (participants can only enter ONE of the following categories):

* **Traditional Speech** – Pick a topic of your choice and write an original, factual speech about it. This could be about a 4-H project you love or a current issue you are concerned about. Your speech could inform, persuade, or motivate your audience. Your entire speech or an outline of your speech can be put on note cards for use during your presentation, or it may be memorized. You may also use visuals (posters, charts, diagrams, power point) to help you deliver your speech, but NOT props or costumes. (Keep in mind, this is a speech, not a demonstration.)
* **Interpretive Presentation** – A memorized introduction should be included to credit the author. The options include: prose reading, poetry reading, a memorized piece, storytelling (where the story is told and not read), or an interpretive speech (a speech that had originally been written and presented by someone else). You may edit your selection to meet the time requirement. Original poetry or stories can also be used. If reading the selection, text should be mounted on construction paper instead of reading from a book. You should write an introduction and any transitions that are needed if you have more than one piece. NO props or costumes are permitted.

**Grade categories**: (participants are asked to be respectful of and stick to the time limits)

* Grades K-2 (2-4 minutes)
* Grades 3-5 (2-4 minutes)
* Grades 6-8 (5-7 minutes)
* Grades 9+ (5-7 minutes)