

Presentation Ideas and Skills from Half-a-Hundred Acre Wood

	Presentation Idea	Presentation Skill Focus
Week 1	Impromptu - Tell About Yourself	As a presenter, practice making eye contact with each person in the audience. As a member of the audience, also practice good listening skills and/or learn the difference between a question and a comment.
Week 2	Informative - History topic (about Columbus, or New World Explorers, or How to Make or Use a Compass); Younger children: Show-and-tell something about history (also use show-and-tell for subsequent weeks if needed)	Organization: The "Hamburger" model - Intro (Bun); Body/Key points (meat, lettuce, tomato); Conclusion (Bun); Writing or drawing a key-word outline.
Week 3	Tell about a state you've visited (or a place you've been to within your state)	Three-Second Rule (Pause 3 seconds before starting your presentation)
Week 4	Toy or Game Review	Inflection & vocal expression
Week 5	A favorite Bible passage, person, or event	Controlling body movements and using appropriate gestures and facial expressions
Week 6	How to draw something	Effective use of prop: Speak while facing audience (not facing board)
Week 7	Tell a story or joke	Attention Grabber (Exciting introduction – quote, question, suspense)
Week 8	Recite a poem, nursery rhyme, or famous document/speech	Inflection & vocal expression
Week 9	Biography (tell about a person we have studied the first eight weeks)	Use descriptive, five-sense words
Week 10	Demonstration (science topic, how to draw, how to bake something)	Preparation & Poise (If something goes wrong, continue speaking and show confidence.)
Week 11	Persuasive Speech (persuade audience to buy, do, or think something)	Strong conclusion
Week 12	Tall Tale, Fable, or Myth	Appropriate gestures & expression
Week 13	Informative – tell about a timeline card, science question, history sentence, great artist	Incorporate interesting and exciting details

Week 14	Recitation (Bible passage, nursery rhyme, song lyrics, poetry)	Delivery – Tempo/Pace (slow down speech and incorporate well-timed pauses)
Week 15	Entertainment – Story, joke, dramatic recitation	Eye contact
Week 16	Great artist or how to use an art medium	Timing (presentation takes close to 3 minutes)
Week 17	Book Review	Add interesting details
Week 18	Geography – tell about a place you have been or would like to visit	Using props effectively (souvenirs or pictures/brochures/maps)
Week 19	Instrument family or other orchestra topic	Strong introduction and conclusion
Week 20	Science Topic	Speaking loudly and clearly
Week 21	American Composer	Tempo/Pace and inflection
Week 22	History Topic (State or local history)	Gestures and facial expressions (control habitual movements)
Week 23	Government or current event	Eye contact
Week 24	U.S. President or persuasive speech on science topic (origins)	Voice inflection and pace

Informative Presentation Ideas:

- Show and tell
- What's in the bag? (Place an object in a paper sack and describe what's in it until the audience guesses what it is.)
- What's in my pencil box
- Family history
- A family tradition
- A family vacation
- A hobby
- A favorite memory
- A book review
- A movie review
- A toy or game review
- Retell a story (Aesop, Shakespeare, Mother Goose)
- History topic
- Science topic
- Timeline topic
- Biography (President, leader, artist, composer, historical, scientific, inventor, ancestor, hymn/song writer)

Demonstrative Presentation Ideas:

- How to build something
- How to bake something
- How to draw something
- How to play a boardgame
- How to play an organized sport
- How to diagram a sentence
- How to translate a Latin sentence
- How to solve a math problem
- How to use a math manipulative
- How to use an art medium
- How to play an instrument
- Science experiment & explanation
- Handicraft

Entertaining Presentation Ideas:

- Retell a story (a personal story, Bible, Aesop, Shakespeare, Mother Goose, tall tale, legend, folklore, fable)
- Recite a famous speech
- Recite a poem
- Recite or sing a song
- Tell a joke
- Share a riddle, puzzle, or mystery
- Act out or recite a scene from a play

Persuasive Presentation Ideas:

- Make an advertisement (a real product, a historical product, or one you made up)
- Convince audience to do something (improve your health by not eating junk food, read this book, watch this movie, become a volunteer and change the world, join 4-H)
- Encourage audience to think a certain way about something (origins, current events, politics)
- Book, movie, or toy/game review

Presentation Skills

- Preparation & organization (The Hamburger Model)
- Eye contact
- Speak slowly, loudly, and clearly (pacing, volume, and articulation)
- Appropriate gestures and facial expression
- Use props effectively (not a distraction)
- Control fidgeting and habitual body movements
- Add descriptive details (5-sense words, dress-ups, decorations)
- Attention grabber
- Strong final clincher
- Enthusiasm
- Face audience (if using whiteboard)

- 3-second rule
- Inflection & vocal expression (alter pitch and volume to add suspense and excitement)
- Tempo/Pace (slow down speech and incorporate well-timed pauses)
- Poise (relax and smile; continue with presentation even if you make a mistake)
- Only speak when looking at audience. (Read, look up, and then speak.)