

## Samantha's Speech

Hi, my name is Samantha Springer. I am a member of the Clover Power and Burleigh County Bowmasters 4-H Clubs and I live outside Bismarck. I like 4-H because it teaches me how to do various things like public speaking, time management and life skills. I have made many 4-H friends and gone to camps. My favorite projects include making a cat harness with paracord and a cat tree for my pets, making paint pours and a realistic floral still life for acrylic painting, making a 3-D cardboard figure for sculpture, and making a wooden pen using a lathe and making a cutting board for woodworking. These were all exhibited at Achievement Days in Static Exhibits.

I have participated in Consumer Decision Making, Project Expo, Communication Arts and Static Exhibits at State Fair in both Junior and Senior Divisions. One of my favorite stories from State Fair begins at County Achievement Days. I painted a pre-made ceramic sculpture of a narwhal and it did really well at county. I had a nice conversation with the judge, sharing knowledge about narwhals, as well as my artistic skills. The judge was very nice. It went to state and did well at state too. I really liked making it and it is still on display in my room. The catch is that the piece broke prior to county and I had to creatively fix it by painting a patch on the tail. We never thought it would do well at all. Sometimes a win is sweeter when you don't expect it. We are often surprised by our results in 4-H.

I am an active 4-H member and received many awards. I've been in the top 10 members for points received in my county multiple times. More than the awards, 4-H taught me determination, hard work, useful information, time management, how to be productive, decision-making skills and communication skills. 4-H made me a better speaker and leader in my community and club. It taught me how to speak to various groups. I continue to take leadership roles in my club (as an officer) and in my county (as an ambassador). 4-H made me more confident and sure of myself. I am thankful for the encouragement I receive through awards, judges comments, 4-H personnel and club leaders.

Thank you for letting me speak. I appreciate your time.