



SPEAKING WITH CONFIDENCE CLUB

Confident, charismatic leaders weren't born that way. Yet good communication skills are vital to be successful in school and in life. People who express themselves clearly and confidently, and are persuasive and comfortable communicating with a wide range of people are in high demand in today's society.

This training program helps children gain the confidence to become good leaders and speakers. This is a learn-by-doing program in which children get to have the final word. Most schools and universities do not offer this type of training, Tangible Horizons does. Public speaking skills must be taught early in a child's education and must not be assumed. The Speaking With Confidence Club teaches children how to formulate and express their ideas with poise and confidence. They improve their ability to listen and evaluate others' ideas, and they learn leadership skills along the way.

This program is not a formal classroom course in public speaking. No one's work is graded and no tests are taken. In the Speaking With Confidence Club, members learn by studying a club project manual and by practicing and helping one another. Learning occurs in a club environment. Club meetings are organized workshops where members study and practice communication and leadership skills with others who are there for the same reasons. They learn by doing and by watching others.

During club meetings great emphasis is put on building "quick thinking" skills as members give one- to two-minute speeches on general contemporary subjects. The greatest learning comes from preparing and presenting speeches based on the projects in the club manual.

This manual has ten speech projects, each designed to develop critical speaking skills one step at a time. Each project builds upon what was learned in the preceding project. You begin with "The Ice Breaker" speech. Since it is your first speech before the club, it is based on an easy subject – yourself. In subsequent speeches you learn the importance of organization, speech purpose, proper word usage, body language and vocal variety. You also learn how to do research, use visual aids, speak persuasively and inspire others.

Most speeches are only five to seven minutes long. This gives you enough time to develop your topic while still keeping club meetings to one hour. You learn to speak with confidence, clarity, persuasiveness and enthusiasm.

An evaluator gives verbal and written feedback on every speech presented. The evaluator provides a personal opinion of your talk, pointing out its strengths and offering suggestions for improving your next speech. Evaluations have one purpose: to help you become a more effective speaker. Eventually, as you gain more experience, you will evaluate the speeches of others.



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The Speaking With Confidence Club uses a project manual that helps to develop vital speaking skills with the following 10 speech projects:

1. **The Ice Breaker**- objectives are to begin speaking before an audience, to discover speaking skills you already have and skills that need some attention.
2. **Organize Your Speech**- objectives are to allow listeners to easily follow and understand your speech, to make your message clear, to use transitions between ideas, and to create strong openings and conclusions.
3. **Get To The Point** – objectives are to select a speech with a purpose, to achieve the purpose, to develop a beginning, body and supporting conclusion, to convey sincerity and control any nervousness.
4. **How To Say It** – Objectives are to select the right words and sentence structure to communicate your ideas clearly, to use devices to emphasize ideas, to eliminate jargon and to use correct grammar.
5. **Your Body Speaks** – Objectives are to use stance, movement, gestures, facial expressions and eye contact to express your message and achieve your purpose, and to make your body language smooth and natural.
6. **Vocal Variety** – Objectives are to use voice volume, pitch, rate and quality to add interest to your message, to use pauses effectively, and use vocal variety smoothly and naturally.
7. **Research Your Topic** – Objectives are to collect information about your topic from numerous sources, and to carefully support your points and opinions with specific facts, examples and illustrations gathered through research.
8. **Get Comfortable With Visual Aids** – Objectives are to select visual aids that are appropriate for your message and the audience, and to use visual aids correctly with ease and confidence.
9. **Persuade With Power** – Objectives are to persuade listeners to take some action, to appeal to an audience's interests, to use logic and emotion to support your position, and to avoid using notes.
10. **Inspire Your Audience** – Objectives are to inspire the audience by appealing to public motives and challenging the audience to achieve a higher level of beliefs or achievement, to appeal to the audience's needs and emotions, using stories, anecdotes and quotes to add drama, and to avoid using notes.

Meetings are held weekly
Member club fees are \$25 per project completed
For more information visit us on the web at
www.tangiblehorizons.com
or contact us at 248-229-3636