



DENVER **DEBATE CLUB**

At-Home Public Speaking Guide:

**Helping Kids Build Confidence In Public
Speaking at Home and In the Classroom**

A Resource From the Denver Debate Club



Why Do Public Speaking Skills Matter?

Strong speaking abilities improve school performance, leadership, and future opportunities.



The Challenge:

Many students feel nervous, shy, or unsure of what to say in front of a classroom or audience.

The Good News:

Confidence can be taught step by step, with the right support at home and through the Denver Debate Club.

5 Strategies Parents Can Use at Home

1. Practice Everyday Speaking

Encourage your child to order their own meal, introduce themselves, or share a story at the dinner table. This builds comfort with speaking in different settings.

2. Celebrate Effort, Not Perfection

Praise your child for trying, not just for speaking flawlessly. Reduces fear of mistakes and boosts resilience.

3. Model Confident Communication

Let your child see you pause, make eye contact, and speak clearly. Kids imitate what they observe. Shows that confidence is a learned behavior.

4. Use Fun Games & Prompts

Play quick activities like 'Would You Rather?' or 20-second storytelling challenges. Makes speaking low-stress and enjoyable.

5. Give Gentle Feedback

Instead of correcting everything, pick one skill to improve at a time (eye contact, volume, or clarity). Builds progress step by step without overwhelming them.

Quick At-Home Public Speaking Activities

Two-Minute Story:

Ask your student to tell a story about their day with a clear beginning, middle, and end.

Confidence Mirror:

Practice speaking in front of a mirror to build awareness of facial expressions.

Family Debate Night:

Rotate topics and have everyone share a short speech.

Debate the Silly:

Which is better – pancakes or waffles? Encourage reasoning and playful arguments.



Next Steps: How DDC Can Help

Confidence grows fastest in a supportive community with peers and coaches.



At Denver Debate Club, students learn:

- Public speaking strategies
- Thought organization
- How to present confidently
- Teamwork and respectful listening
- How to write an impactful speech
- Research methods and techniques



**Book a Free
Trial Class**

Register Today!

**Schedule a
Consultation**