

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



As you embark on this year-long speech and debate adventure, take a moment to ask yourself some very important questions:

- **Why should I participate in Christian speech and debate?**
 - How will developing communication skills and applying my biblical worldview to relevant issues impact myself and others?
- **What do I hope to accomplish this year?** Choose goals from the list below or write your own!
 - I will find my voice and share my story.
 - I will choose speeches that point others to truth.
 - I will discover what I believe, why I believe it, and how I can persuade others. (Apologetics)
 - I will learn how to research well and discover good ideas.
 - I will learn how to order my thoughts in a logical, cohesive arrangement.
 - I will communicate clearly and concisely to ensure understanding.
 - I will use stories and humor to engage my audience and share my message.
 - I will improve my delivery with eye contact, facial expressions, and vocal techniques.
 - I will gain confidence and poise while delivering speeches.
 - I will complete assignments in a timely manner.
 - I will collaborate with others, learning from their ideas while sharpening my own.
 - I will choose humility over pride, accepting constructive feedback that helps me grow.
 - I will choose integrity and honor over personal gain.
 - I will treat my opponent with respect, speaking graciously and assuming the best.
 - I will choose a positive attitude and enthusiastic participation.
- **How many minutes will I devote to developing communication skills each day?**
- **What resources or tools will best help me to learn?**
- **Who might be interested in collaborating and practicing with me each week?**
- **What tournament(s) will I attend to sharpen my skills?**

With twenty-five years of experience, NCFCA has produced exceptional resources to help guide the way:

- Free resources in the Public Resource Library. (<https://www.ncfca.org/resources/>)
- Additional resources in the Affiliate Resource Library. ([Create an account](#), click Affiliate Now, visit Resource Library)
- NCFCA Comprehensive Guides to Speech, Policy, and Value Debate (<https://www.ncfca.org/resources/curriculum>)
- NCFCA Online Intensive Recording Bundle (Log in at www.NCFCA.org. Visit the NCFCA Shop.)

We pray for you often and look forward to hearing about your learning adventure!

"Now may the God of peace, who, through the blood of the eternal covenant, brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing his will, and may he work in us what is pleasing to him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20-21).

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



Speech (Big Ideas: What is a platform speech? How do I select a platform speech topic?)

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Student | READ WATCH SET COMPLETE | Selecting Your Topic (Speech Competitor's Handbook, Platform Mod A) Summit Session 1: Finding Your Voice (Free in the Resource Library) 3 goals for the year. What do you hope to accomplish? Topic Lists, Brain Dump Worksheet, Mind Map Worksheet, Fill in the Gaps Worksheet (Speech Competitor's Handbook, Platform Mod A) |
| Parent/ Coach | CONSIDER WARM-UP DISCUSS PREVIEW | I Peter 3:15 Three About Me* What is platform speech and why should we participate? What topic did you choose? Why do you love it? What value will it provide to your audience? Active Research (Stories, Books, Online Articles, Interviews) |

Policy Debate (Big Idea: What is policy debate? What is our resolution?)

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Student | READ WATCH SET RESEARCH | Introduction to Policy Debate (Policy Competitor's Handbook, L1) Summit Session 10: Preparing for Policy Debate (Free in the Resource Library) 3 goals for the year. What do you hope to accomplish? The Policy Debate Resolution White Paper (Free in the Resource Library) What is the European Union? What are its parts? Why was it formed? |
| Parent/ Coach | CONSIDER WARM-UP DISCUSS COMPLETE PREVIEW | I Peter 3:15 Five Good Reasons** What is policy debate and why should we participate? (Find additional discussion questions in the Policy Coach's Manual) Activity 1.1 Outline Speech Order (Policy Coach's Manual) Activity 1.2 Bible Study (Policy Coach's Manual) Argumentation (Toulmin and Claim-Warrant-Impact Models) |

Value Debate (Big Ideas: What is value debate? What is our resolution?)

| | | |
|------------------|---|--|
| Student | READ WATCH SET RESEARCH | Introduction to Value Debate (Value Competitor's Handbook, L1) Learning Logic 1 (Value Competitor's Handbook, LL1) Summit Session 13: Preparing for Value Debate (Free in the Resource Library) 3 goals for the year. What do you hope to accomplish? The Value Debate Resolution White Paper (Free in the Resource Library) What are democratic elections? What are its parts? Why was it formed? |
| Parent/ Coach | CONSIDER WARM-UP DISCUSS COMPLETE PREVIEW | I Peter 3:15 Five Good Reasons** What is value debate and why should we participate? (Find additional discussion questions in the Value Coach's Manual) Activity 1.1 Speech Order (Value Coach's Manual) Activity 1.2 Bible Study (Value Coach's Manual) Argumentation (Claim-Warrant-Impact Model) |

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



GAME - THREE ABOUT ME

- *Cut the cards below.*
- *Invite students to come to the front of the room, draw a slip of paper, and share facts while displaying the assigned emotion.*
- *Ask the audience to guess the emotion.*
- *SCALE: If your group is large, divide into groups of 4-8 students and have parents facilitate.*
- *EXTEND: How do emotions affect speech presentations?*

| | |
|--|--|
| <p>EXUBERANT</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing that annoys me is...</p> <p>My favorite day of the week is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>NERVOUS</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One subject that I enjoy is...</p> <p>My favorite song is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>AFRAID</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One movie that I enjoy is...</p> <p>My favorite animal is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>JOYFUL</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One sport that I enjoy is...</p> <p>My favorite dessert is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>SAD</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I'd like to buy is...</p> <p>My favorite color is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>BOLD</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I love about my Dad is...</p> <p>My favorite fruit is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



| | |
|--|---|
| <p>GRUMPY</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I love to eat is...</p> <p>My favorite book is...</p> <p>I wish I could</p> | <p>BORED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I like about summer is...</p> <p>My favorite day of the week is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>ROBOTIC</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One place I love to visit is...</p> <p>My favorite ice cream is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>PROUD</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One game I enjoy playing is...</p> <p>My favorite restaurant is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>ANNOYED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I like about winter is...</p> <p>My favorite school subject is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>RELAXED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I love about Illinois is...</p> <p>My favorite cereal is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>SHY</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I love about Sundays is...</p> <p>My favorite breakfast is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>OVERWHELMED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I like about Spring is...</p> <p>My favorite inside activity is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



| | |
|--|---|
| <p>FURIOUS</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing that makes me laugh is...</p> <p>My favorite outside activity is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>DEPRESSED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One pet I would enjoy having is...</p> <p>My favorite computer program is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>SURPRISED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing that makes me laugh is...</p> <p>My favorite outside activity is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>SCARED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One cartoon I enjoy reading is...</p> <p>My favorite memory is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>FRUSTRATED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing that makes me cry is...</p> <p>My favorite day of the week is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>SILLY</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One cartoon I enjoy reading is...</p> <p>My favorite memory is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |
| <p>RELIEVED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing that makes me mad is...</p> <p>My favorite hobby is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> | <p>EMBARRASSED</p> <p>My name is...</p> <p>One thing I love about my mom is...</p> <p>My favorite kind of soda is...</p> <p>I wish I could...</p> |

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



GAME - GIVE ME FIVE GOOD REASONS

- *Cut the resolutions below into strips.*
- *Invite two students to the front of the room and say, "In this game, you will draw a resolution. The first student must give a good reason to affirm the issue. The second must give a good reason that we should negate the issue. We'll keep alternating until both have shared 5 good reasons or have no additional reasons to share."*
- *SCALE: If your group is large, divide into groups of 4-8 students and have a parent facilitate each group.*
- *IMPACT: When debating, we must provide logical reasons that support our positions.*
- *EXTEND: Ask the students: How did you feel when sharing your reasons? Did it get easier or harder as you went along?*

ISSUE: Whether soda should be banned

AFF: Soda SHOULD be banned.

NEG: Soda SHOULD NOT be banned.

ISSUE: Whether parents should give a weekly allowance to children

AFF: Parents SHOULD give a weekly allowance to their children.

NEG: Parents SHOULD NOT give a weekly allowance to their children.

ISSUE: Whether men should grow facial hair

AFF: Men SHOULD grow facial hair.

NEG: Men SHOULD NOT grow facial hair.

ISSUE: Whether homeschoolers should join Speech Club

AFF: Homeschoolers SHOULD join a Speech Club.

NEG: Homeschoolers SHOULD NOT join a Speech Club.

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



ISSUE: Whether the Geico Gecko should be elected president

AFF: The Geico Gecko SHOULD be elected president.

NEG: The Geico Gecko SHOULD NOT be elected president.

ISSUE: Whether teenagers should be required to get a job

AFF: Teenagers SHOULD be required to get a job.

NEG: Teenagers SHOULD NOT be required to get a job.

ISSUE: Whether debate camp students should wear uniforms

AFF: Debate club members SHOULD wear uniforms.

NEG: Debate club members SHOULD NOT wear uniforms.

ISSUE: Whether churches should be required to sing hymns

AFF: Churches SHOULD be required to sing hymns.

NEG: Churches SHOULD NOT be required to sing hymns.

ISSUE: Whether students should complete math in the summer

AFF: Students SHOULD complete math in the summer.

NEG: Students SHOULD NOT complete math in the summer.

ISSUE: Whether every family should own a dog

AFF: Every family SHOULD own a dog.

NEG: Every family SHOULD NOT own a dog.

STEPPING STONES

Week 1



ISSUE: Whether children should watch TV

AFF: Children SHOULD watch TV.

NEG: Children SHOULD NOT watch TV.

ISSUE: Whether families should eat dinner together

AFF: Families SHOULD eat dinner together.

NEG: Families SHOULD NOT eat dinner together.

ISSUE: Whether homeschooling moms should get one day off per week

AFF: Homeschool moms SHOULD get one day off per week.

NEG: Homeschooling moms SHOULD NOT get one day off per week.