Idaho Invention Convention State Finals Pitch Presentation

So you’ve qualified for the Invent Idaho Invention Convention State Finals—and now you’re ***terrified*** because you will have 2 minutes to “pitch” or present your invention to the judges. Relax! You have lived with the invention for months, so you know your topic. You’ve got this!

DETAILS AND TIPS

* 2 minutes: You will have 2 minutes to share with the judges all about your invention. You do not *have* to use the full 2 minutes, but you are encouraged to use all 2 minutes to share as much as you can!
* 3 minutes: After your 2 minute presentation, the judges will have 3 minutes to ask you questions.
* 3-5 inventors will be scheduled at the same time and will listen to each others’ presentations. So you will not be alone.
* Goal: “pitch” your invention to the judges! Convince them that your invention solution is the best idea ever!
* MUST include: In your pitch presentation, you **must** include PROBLEM STATEMENT, DESCRIBE YOUR SOLUTION (How it works and how it solves the problem), RESEARCH (facts, statistics about your problem), ORIGINALITY (Research about other existing or similar inventions; how do you know your invention does not already exist?), BETTER AND DIFFERENT (how is your invention better than other inventions and how is it different from similar inventions?).
* NOTE CARDS: inventors in grades 1-3 may use note cards but should not read directly from the note cards. Refer to the note cards but not read them. Parents of inventors in grades 1-3 may print the note cards so students can refer to them. Inventors in grades 4-8 are encouraged to be memorized but may refer to note cards if needed. Inventors in grades 9-12 should be fully memorized and not use note cards.
* PRACTICE! The more times you practice, the easier it is to be confident when presenting.
* ENTHUSIASM AND CONFIDENCE: Speak loudly and clearly. Have good eye contact with the judges. Be excited about your invention. Have fun and be confident. You could even add a little jingle or something fun to really capture the judges’ attention.
* PITCH IS NOT SCORED: There is not an award for the pitch. In fact, the pitch is not even scored. The pitch presentation is super important, however, because your presentation will help the judges to fully understand your problem and invention solution.
* WHAT IF I CANNOT ATTEND IN PERSON? Although it is desirable to have every young inventor experience the opportunity and excitement of the Invent Idaho Invention Convention State Finals, of course, we know life happens and not all can attend in person. The pitch is not a scored item, so you will not be penalized if you are not there. You CAN send a video recording with a device to show your pitch with the person who is setting up your invention, or try some new technology: Download Vocaroo (<https://vocaroo.com/>), record your pitch presentation, and print out a QR CODE to put on your display board so judges and the public can listen to your pitch in your own voice.
* Be sure to check out the example pitch on the Invent Idaho website.
* WHY? Why have we added a pitch presentation to the Invent Idaho Invention Convention State Finals? Many reasons: Public speaking and communicating your ideas are important skills; judges have told us they think it would make their job easier if they could hear from the young inventors themselves; National Invention Convention qualifiers will be giving a pitch at the U.S. Nationals, so this is great practice!