Guidelines for the presentation

These are a few pointers to make the presentation more effective:

- Remember that your audience are the other students. You have spent some time reading about a particular technique/experiment and your task is to help them understand it better.

- Avoid jargon. Don’t mention jargon if you are not going to explain it, because it only confuses people. For instance, it would be useless to say something like “… and they used PCR to renormalize the dynamic range of stringent positive clones..”, unless you are going to explain what each of those terms means. For every image or sentence that you include in your presentation you should think: does this make the other students understand this point better?

- The most important part of the presentation is to illustrate why the particular technique that they use allows the authors to come up with their conclusions. Don’t just show some pictures and mention some numbers: explain the logic of why they chose that technique, what the numbers suggest, how did they come up with that interpretation, what questions remains unanswered by that experiment, what could be the next logical step to do, etc…?

- If there are many ways to do the experiment, try to explain in more detail the way that they authors did their experiment. Don’t worry too much about other technical details if they are not used in the paper.

- Try to connect the technique with the paper. Always use the general motivation of the paper as your guide to present the experiment. Put it in the context of what the authors are trying to figure out. What would be even better is, after you are done explaining what they did, if you can suggest better ways of answering the question with another experiment.