

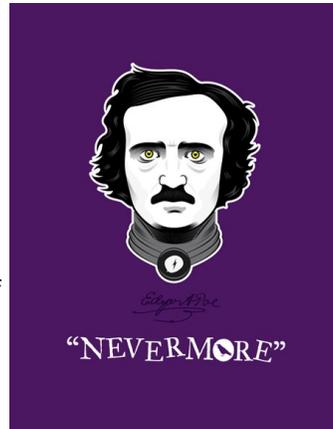


LOW HANGING FRUIT

Happy 211th Birthday, Edgar Allan Poe!

By Allison Floyd

Beloved author of macabre tales and lamenter of ornery birds, Edgar Allan Poe would have turned 211 on January 19th. Alas, he didn't make it past 40, which makes his prolific output all the more impressive. While perhaps his greatest claim to fame is his narrative poem, *The Raven* ("Quoth the Raven, 'Nevermore.'"), Poe penned volumes of short stories, poetry, and incisive criticism, and also authored a novel. He is considered the father of the modern detective story ("Edgar Allan Poe," 2006).



While his life was brief and plagued by alcoholism, poverty, and loss, Poe's impact on the popular imagination would be difficult to overstate. For a tip-of-the-iceberg jumping-off point, check out [this Wikipedia article](#) on the subject.

Whether you choose to follow in the footsteps of the erstwhile [Poe Toaster](#) and mark the occasion of his birth with red roses and cognac, or to treat yourself to his classic tales and verse (see the sidebars), January is the perfect month in which to honor this giant of American letters by spicing up classroom reading with a dash of horror.



Listen to Vincent Price's classic recording of *The Tell Tale Heart* by Edgar Allan Poe at <https://soundcloud.com/pricevincentstories/vincent-price-the-tell-tale-heart>

And kindly note that his middle name is not spelled with an "e" while reviewing the classroom connections section of knowing-poe.thinkport.org/classconn/lessonplans.asp.

Edgar Allan Poe. (2019). *Columbia Electronic Encyclopedia, 6th Edition*, 1–2. Retrieved from <http://search.ebscohost.com.lili.idm.oclc.org/login.aspx?direct=true&AuthType=ip,shib&db=lfh&AN=134488607&site=lrc-live>

LINKS TO MORE LEARNING



The Raven

Read Poe's famous poem in its entirety here:

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poems/48860/the-raven>.

Digital Public Library of America

Pay their impressive Poe collection a visit. Includes primary sources such as texts, images, physical objects, and more

<https://dp.la/search?q=%22edgar+allan+poe%22>.

Literary Reference Center

Check out yet another great LILI resource for reviews, articles, and critical reflections on the work of Poe

https://lili.org/full-resource-index/?wpv_post_search=literary+reference+center&topics=0&user_groups=0&wpv_view_count=22.

PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS



PBS LearningMedia

Bring Poe and his work to life in the classroom with video clips of "The Raven" and more. Take advantage of teaching guides and discussion starters such as "Elements of Style in Poe": <https://idahoptv.pbslearningmedia.org/search/?q=%22edgar%20allan%20poe%22>.

DIGITAL TOOLS



World Book Advanced

This online encyclopedia, freely available on lili.org, provides access to the full content of such famous Poe tales as "The Masque of the Red Death," "The Tell-Tale Heart," and "The Pit and the Pendulum". There's plenty for the poetry buffs too! Search for "Edgar Allan Poe," click on the article, click the "Related Information" tab, then click on a poem or story by title, or on any of several volumes of his work. <https://lili.org/>.



