



# POEtry

Edgar Allan Poe was born in Boston in 1809 and orphaned at age two. He was soon adopted by a Virginian merchant family who sold, among other things, tombstones! Is it a surprise that he became known for writing such dark and gloomy stories?

His poem *The Raven* was a huge success. He is considered to be the inventor of detective fiction and the father of American mystery writing.

Try writing some poems of your own! A limerick has five lines. Each line should have a certain number of syllables (9-9-6-6-9). The last word of lines one, two, and five should rhyme, and so should the last word of lines three and four.

### Here's a spooky example:

There once was a very old specter  
who loved to eat apricot nectar.

So he haunted the trees  
to scare off hungry bees,  
and now he's a nectar collector.



Write your own limerick on the lines below!

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Haikus are easier. They're only three lines long, no rhyming needed! Each haiku follows a syllable pattern of 5-7-5.

**Here's a Who Was? example:**

Read biographies.

Learn facts, gain inspiration,

and get good grades, too.

**Write your haiku below!**

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