



Activity: Narrative and Persuasive Essays

Intended Grade/Audience: 6th-8th

Overview of the Activity:	Student Objectives:	Activity Time: 45 minutes
<p>Student will be introduced to narrative and persuasive, writing. They will choose an audience and purpose, organize writing to fit mode or topic, establish a central idea incorporating evidence, and maintaining an organized structure. They will also write narratives to include characters, plot, setting, and point of view or compose a thesis statement for persuasive writing.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Students will be introduced to Edgar Allan Poe to create a lasting interest and appreciation for his literature.2. Students will strengthen their creative writing skills.	

Virginia SOLs addressed and/or met:

For 6th grade:

- **Reading - 6.5** The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
- **Writing - 6.7** The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, expository, persuasive, and reflective with an emphasis on narrative and reflective writing.
- **Writing - 6.8** The student will self- and peer-edit writing for capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

For 7th grade:

- **Reading - 7.5** The student will read and demonstrate comprehension of a variety of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, and poetry.
- **Writing - 7.7** The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, expository, persuasive, and reflective with an emphasis on expository and persuasive writing.
- **Writing - 7.8** The student will self- and peer-edit writing for capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

For 8th grade:

- **Reading - 8.5** - The student will read and analyze a variety of fictional texts, literary nonfiction, poetry, and drama.
- **Writing - 8.7** The student will write in a variety of forms to include narrative, expository, persuasive, and reflective with an emphasis on expository and persuasive writing.

- **Writing - 8.8** The student will self- and peer-edit writing for capitalization, punctuation, spelling, sentence structure, paragraphing, and Standard English.

Choose one of the prompts below and write your response in the space below.

Narrative Essay: Edgar Allan Poe grew up in Richmond, Virginia and spent more time in this city than any other place he lived. Imagine if young Poe was transported to Richmond today. Write a narrative essay describing how you would spend your day with Poe in 21st century Richmond. Use historical research of Edgar Allan Poe's upbringing in Richmond to support your story.

Persuasive Essay: Many cities, including Baltimore and Philadelphia, claim Edgar Allan Poe, but Poe claimed Richmond. Write a persuasive essay on why Richmond should be recognized as the "Home of Edgar Allan Poe." Use historical research of Edgar Allan Poe's upbringing in Richmond to support your story.

Write: Write your essay in the space below.