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Trading Cards

Just like sport trading cards from the past, students can create cards describing key concepts, characters or people using the templates on pages 49–52. On the framed side (front), have students design a player, such as a character from a book or famous historical person. On the back, students can write a description. Key events, concepts or ideas can also be illustrated on the front, with definitions and examples on the reverse side. These cards can then be shared by students when reviewing the unit or studying for a test.

Curriculum Connections

Science: Assign each student an element from the periodic table. Each student can then make a trading card with an illustration of molecules of the element on the front and specific facts on the back.

Social Studies: For a unit such as Greece, have each student make a card for a key cultural component. Examples for the front of the card could be a map of Greece for geography, a picture of Zeus for religion, a symbol of democracy representing government, and so forth. On the back of the card, have the student explain the symbolic picture and its importance in the civilization.

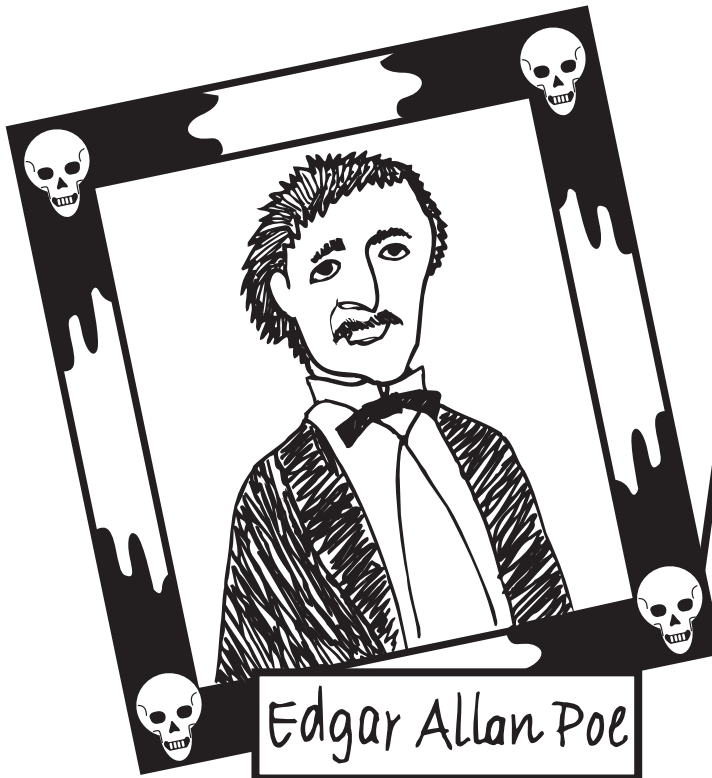
Language Arts: Characters come alive when students create trading cards about them while reading a book or short story. Include a picture on one side with a description of the character and his or her importance on the reverse. In addition, make flash cards for key vocabulary words, spelling words, literary devices (metaphors, similes, alliteration, etc.), or parts of speech. Sample sentences or examples could be on one side, and definitions on the other.

As a writing extension, have students create trading cards for a main character, setting, problem or conflict, and resolution. All the cards can be mixed up, then students can pick different character, setting, conflict and resolution cards, and write short stories to fit the elements.



Trading Cards (cont.)

Sample Trading Cards



Edgar Allan Poe

- Born in Boston 1809 - 1849.
- orphan before he was 3
- adopted by the Allan family and received a good education
- published two volumes of poetry by age 20
- famous for tales of horror and mystery
- famous works include "The Raven", "The Pit and the Pendulum", "The Fall of the House of Usher," and "The Tell-Tale Heart"

Metaphor

An imaginative comparison between two unlikely things in which one thing is said to be another thing.

- He was a mountain of a man.
- She was an angel
- The night was a dark cloak

