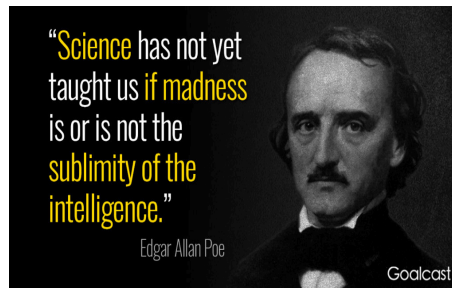


Name\_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_ Period\_\_\_\_\_

## Edgar Allan Poe Science Observation Lab



**Background Information:** **Edgar Allan Poe** was born on January 19, 1809 in Boston, and later died under very mysterious circumstances when he was just 40 years of age. This **famous writer and poet** created several legendary works, such as “The Murders in the Rue Morgue,” “The Raven,” and “Annabel Lee.” His poems and short stories still appeal to readers to this very day.

The mystery surrounding his passing began on October 3, 1849 when a stranger found Poe semi-conscious in a tavern in Baltimore, which was also the location of a polling site. Unfortunately he never regained enough consciousness to explain what happened to him and Poe passed away just four days after being found. There have been many theories over the years as to what caused Poe’s death, such as **rabies**, alcohol, brain tumor, and even murder. Nobody really knows the exact cause of his passing which is also why so many people are still fascinated with this huge mystery surrounding one of the greatest writers of all time (BY JOCELYNE LEBLANC ON AUGUST 18, 2018 ).

**Question:** How did Edgar Allan Poe Die?

**Hypothesis:** If Edgar Allan Poe was able to have an autopsy today, it would show he died from \_\_\_\_\_  
because \_\_\_\_\_

**Materials:** 6 dissection trays, 12 hand lenses, 12 dissection pins, 6 pig eyes, 1 pig heart, 1 pig lung (simulated with sea sponges if not available), 1 pig stomach, 1 pig liver, cornstarch, food coloring (red, yellow, green, blue), station titles, laminated autopsy reports for each body part that is diseased.

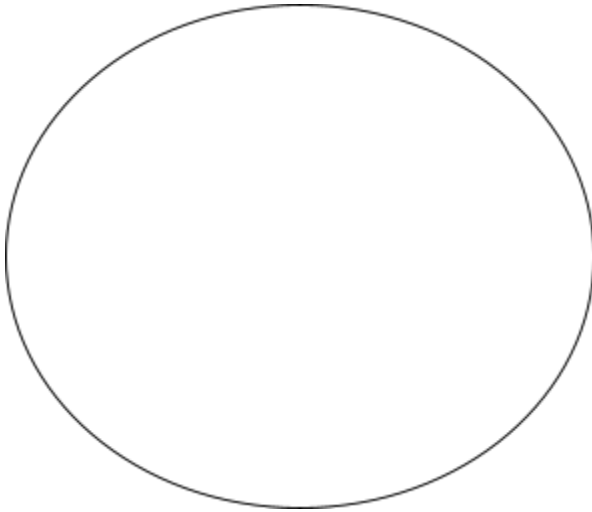
**Procedures:**

1. Pick a station to start your observation. Read the report on the specific organ assigned to the table.
2. Use the hand lens and dissection pins to investigate the physical condition of the organ.
3. Write down station number, name of body organ and physical observations of organ on the autopsy page. Draw the organ on the autopsy page with a brief description of features such as bruises, cuts, boils, change of color, etc.
4. Write down the disease the patient may have died from according to the condition of the organ being investigated.
5. Repeat steps 1-4 for each station.
6. The class will complete the data chart and graph by asking each investigator about his/her hypothesis.
7. The data will be used to make a graph of how Edgar Allen Poe really died according to the hypotheses of the 8th grade population at Westwood Middle School.

Body Part	Diseased	Looks normal	Name of disease according to physical symptoms
stomach			
liver			
lungs			
Brain & eyes			
heart			

**Autopsy Report Of Physical Body Parts**

Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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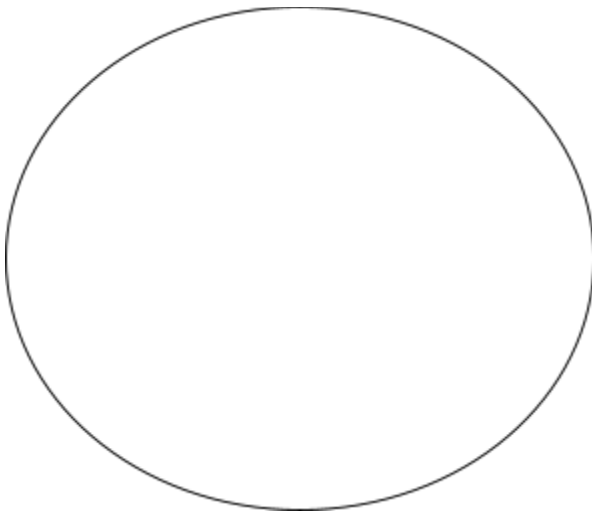
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Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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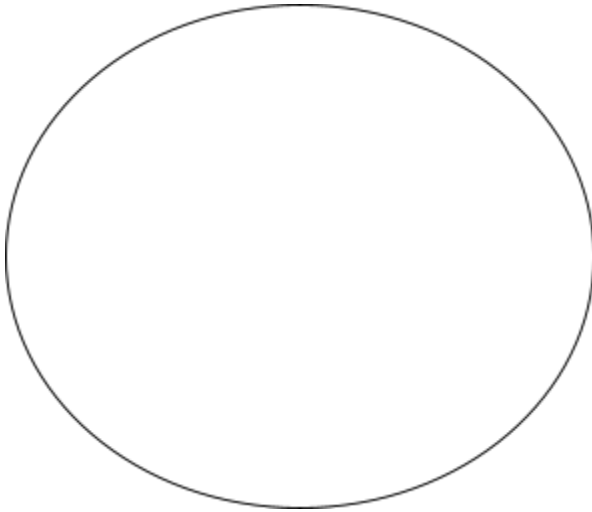
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### **Autopsy Report Of Physical Body Parts**

Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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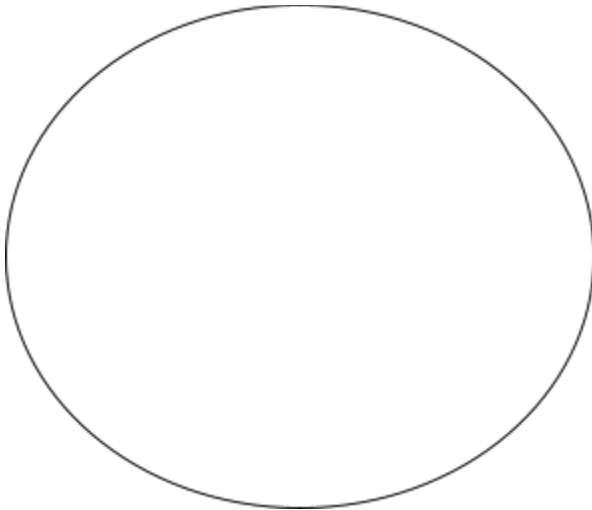
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Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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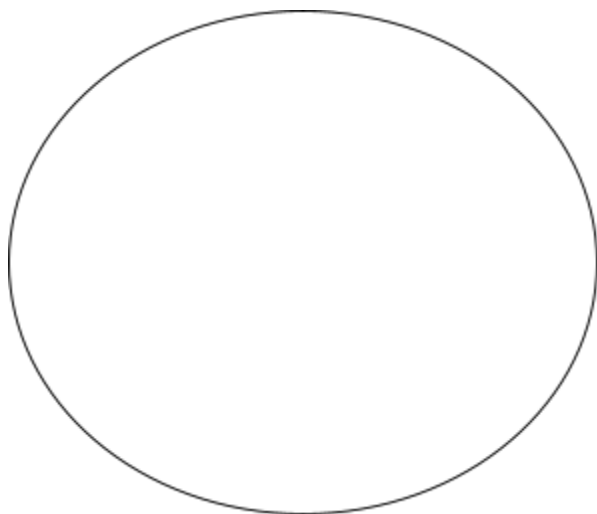
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### **Autopsy Report Of Physical Body Parts**

Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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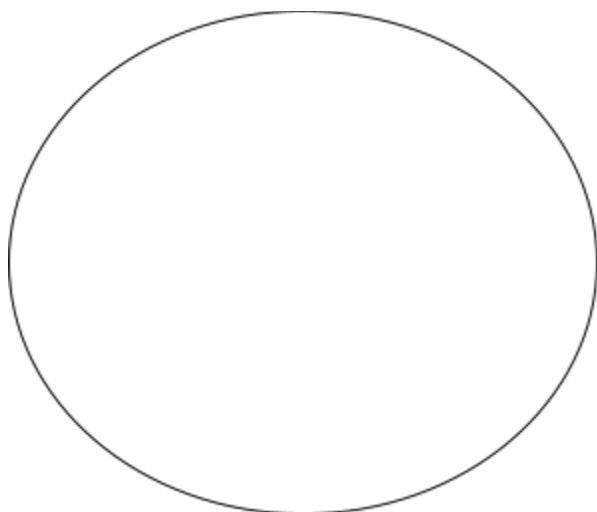
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Organ \_\_\_\_\_ Station # \_\_\_\_\_



Physical features present:

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## How Edgar Allen Poe Died

Poll from Mrs. Beck's \_\_\_\_\_ Period Class

