One of the most beloved books that has ever been penned by Dr. Seuss is Green Eggs and Ham. Published in 1960, it remains the fourth best selling children's book of all time.

The story revolves around two characters, Sam-I-Am and the unhappy focus of Sam's attention, unnamed and kind of cranky. What is it that Sam is trying to get the character to do? Why, try green eggs and ham, of course!

Like many mothers, frustrated with children's fondness for refusing new foods, Sam tried every way possible to get the attention of his victim...I mean friend. He offers the delicacy on a train, and with a goat, in a house, and many other variations of company and place. Each time the offer is made it is grumpily turned down, and yet Sam does not give up.

There are only 50 words total in this story, and many are rhyming words.

Lesson Warm-Up
Ask students what rhyming words are (words that have the same ending sounds). Tell students to touch their nose when they hear words that rhyme.

Words: (cat, hat) (mix, cap) (see, be) (do, at) (hip, dip)
Assess students’ understanding of rhyming.

Supplies:
Index cards, Word searches, Rhyming cards, Poem handout, Maze handout

Introduction/Procedure
Do a read aloud with Green Eggs and Ham a rhyming book

Tell the students that we will read the book once more. Remind students that this picture book has rhyming words in it. Students will be the rhyme detectives and must touch their nose when they hear two or more words that rhyme.

When students touch their nose, stop reading and ask students to identify the words that rhyme. Write each of these words on index cards and place them in the pocket chart.

When you are finished reading the story, you will have plenty of rhyming word cards in the chart. Pull out all of the pairs of cards that rhyme and review them with the class. Call up
students to read the rhyming words and then have them stand in front of the classroom holding their pair of cards. When all of the pairs have been read, have each student at the front of the class step forward and say their pair of rhyming words with the rest of the class.

Tell students that they will now have a chance to make and play their own rhyming game. Pass out the rhyme cards printable and ask students to cut out the cards. Pass out baggies for students to store their cards in.

Ways to play the game:
- Students can play in pairs or independently, mixing up the cards and finding rhyming pairs.
- Students can play the game like Concentration, turning over and mixing up the cards.

Closure
Say one rhyming word and point to students in the class to tell you a word that rhymes with it.
Sam-I-Am without his Green Eggs and Ham Maze

Sam-I-Am has lost his ham, and his green eggs as well. Can you help Sam get through the maze to his Green Eggs and Ham?
Green Eggs and Ham

AM
DR SEUSS
GREEN
LIKE
SAM

BOOK
EGGS
GREEN EGGS AND HAM
READ

DO NOT LIKE
FUN
HAM
RHYME
Follow Up Activity

Think of three pairs of words that rhyme. Different ones than the ones we heard in the story Green Eggs and Ham. Write the three pairs of words on the lines. Begin with your first pair of words write a sentence that ends in each of the words. These are the first two verses of your poem. Do the same thing for the other two pairs of rhyming words.

Green Eggs and Ham

Write a poem.
Write some words that rhyme.
Then write a poem using the words.

_________________  ___________________

_________________  ___________________

_________________  ___________________