Limerick Laughter

A limerick is a humorous poem with five lines in a set pattern.
- Lines one and two are longer lines of nine beats ending with a rhyme.
- Lines three and four are shorter lines of seven beats which end with a different rhyme.
- Line five is a longer line of nine beats that ends with the same rhyme as lines one and two.

There many anonymous limericks. Here are some examples:

I Sat Next to the Duchess at Tea
I sat next to the duchess at tea.
It was just as I feared it would be.
Her rumblings abdominal
Were simply phenomenal
And everyone thought it was me!

There Was an Old Man of Blackheath
There was an old man of Blackheath
Who sat on his set of false teeth,
Said he with a start,
'Oh Lord bless my heart!
I have bitten myself underneath!'

Consequence Limericks
A game for groups of three or more

Begin by choosing one of the lists of rhyming words below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ted head bed fed red sped</th>
<th>Rose chose doze froze those hose pose throes nose close enclose compose impose dispose</th>
<th>Clare rare spare hair lair tear air glare heir blare pear square share despair unfair compare elsewhere</th>
<th>Bill ill still will chill fill mill grill shrill kill swill skill hill gerbil molehill windmill Brazil</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>fed red sped</td>
<td>those hose pose throes nose close enclose compose impose dispose</td>
<td>pear square share despair unfair compare elsewhere</td>
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<tr>
<td>shed said moped bedstead</td>
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<td>fed red sped</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- You will each need a pen and piece of paper.
- Sit in a circle and start by writing the first line of a limerick, ending with the name from your list of rhyming words.
- Without folding the paper, pass it on to the person on your left.
- The next person adds the second line of the limerick, using the words from the list of rhyming words.
- You keep passing the pieces of paper round until all the limericks are complete.
- Then you read out all the limericks and decide which one is best.

Can't find a word which rhymes?

An Oxford Rhyming Dictionary will give you a helping hand!