Recipe Ruckus

Shel writes often about food in his poetry, such as in “Recipe for a Hippopotamus Sandwich” from Where the Sidewalk Ends. Use the “ingredients” in the box below to compose a poem that explains the recipe for your own unique kitchen creation!

---

Bread
Egg
Ketchup
Ham
Apple
Salt
Rice
Carrot
Cheese
Lettuce
---

Art from Where the Sidewalk Ends ©1974, renewed 2002 Evil Eye, LLC. All rights reserved.
Permission to reproduce and distribute this page has been granted by the copyright holder.
Was scared of ____________,

So he never would _____________

Or get into a ________________

Or take a ________________

Or cross a ________________.

He just sat day and night

With his door locked tight

And the windows nailed down,

________________ with fear

That a ____________ might appear,

And ____________ so many tears

That they filled up the ______________

And he ________________.
Eggciting Eggsperiment

In “Eggs Rated” from Falling Up, Shel writes about a man eating delicious eggs at a restaurant, but he uses the word “egg” as a play on many other words that only sound similar. Practice your vocabulary by guessing the words Shel would have used if he hadn’t substituted the word “eggs” in them and write your answers in the lines below. Which version is more fun to read?

EGGS RATED

These eggs

Are ______________.  
[eggscellent]

I’m not ______________.  
[eggsaggerating]

You can tell by my ______________.  
[eggspression]

They’re ______________—
[eggsceptional]

_________________ fluffy,
[Eggstra]

_________________ tasty,
[Eggstremely]

Cooked ______________ right
[eggsactly]

By an ______________
[eggspert]

With lots of ______________.
[eggsperience]

Now I’ll ______________ the bill . . . .
[eggsamine]

Ooh—much more ______________
[eggspensive]

Than I ______________.  
[eggspected]

I gotta get out of here.

Where’s the ______________?
[eggxit]
In the poem “Every Thing On It” from *Every Thing On It*, the narrator asks for a hot dog with *all* the fixings, which include a wristwatch, a goldfish, and a flag. Can you spot the TEN differences between these two drawings? Circle your answers below. Which image is the real one that appears in the book?

What would come on your hot dog with everything on it?

**Answer Key:**
1) One of the snake’s eyes is missing; 2) Snake’s tongue is missing; 3) Umbrella is missing; 4) A stripe is missing in the other umbrella; 5) Flag is missing; 6) Lamp plug is missing; 7) Only one button on the boot; 8) One of the boy’s eyes is missing; 9) Boy’s shorts are gray; 10) Hat is gray.

Art from *Every Thing On It* © 2011 Evil Eye, LLC. All rights reserved.
Permission to reproduce and distribute this page has been granted by the copyright holder.
Spoonerism Scramble

Runny Babbit speaks a topsy-turvy language of his own called spoonerisms, a deliberate play on words in which corresponding letters are switched between two words in a phrase, often with a funny outcome. Imagine if you spoke entirely in spoonerisms—what would you sound like? Translate the everyday actions below into spoonerisms and then read them out loud for a hilariously good time. (Hint: You don’t need to translate words such as “a,” “to,” and “the.”)

Read a book _________________________ **Bead a rook** _________________________

Drink water__________________________

Take a shower________________________

Wash the dishes_______________________

Play soccer___________________________

Talk to friends________________________

Cook dinner__________________________

Listen to music_______________________

Eat a sandwich_______________________

Write a poem_________________________
ABOUT SHEL SILVERSTEIN
Shel Silverstein is the author-artist of many beloved books of prose and poetry. He was a cartoonist, playwright, poet, performer, recording artist, and Grammy-winning, Oscar-nominated songwriter. Learn more about Shel at shelsilverstein.com.

Read all of the Shel Silverstein classics!

Also available with CD

Also available with CD and as an ebook

Art from Falling Up © 1996 Evil Eye Music, Inc. All rights reserved. Permission to reproduce and distribute this page has been granted by the copyright holder.