Couplets

Couplets are two line poems. Each line has the same rhythm (the beat of the poem) and meter (the pattern of stressed and unstressed syllables). And they rhyme. They're great. I love their sing-songy quality. It doesn't hurt that they're often silly, too. When I started thinking about how to write *If Chocolate Were Purple*, I thought rhyming couplets paired perfectly with the whimsy of the book:

If chocolate were purple and bumble bees swam,
For lunch we'd have rainbows, not PB & Jam.
We'd bounce to the beach on legs made of springs,
And visit a lizard who dances and sings.

You can write couplets about anything. Dr. Seuss used them a lot. So did Shel Silverstein. Take a look at this one by Silverstein:

"I cannot go to school today"
Said little Peggy Ann McKay.
I have the measles and the mumps
A gash, a rash, and purple bumps.

Your turn! Print this sheet and use the space below to write your poem. If you want, group a bunch of couplets together to tell a story. Try to get the rhythm and meter as close as you can, but don't worry if it's a little off. Just have fun!