

This is Ms. Susan from the Shorewood Public Library. Let's celebrate National Irish-American month with a fun game to make and play using green cards. This is just a small way that we can honor the contributions that Irish immigrants and their families have played in the United States over many years. Ireland was known as the Emerald Isle and this is why we often use green to commemorate this country and its descendants.



1-For the green cards, make boxes on one sheet of paper and color the cards green, if you do not have green paper. Or fold the paper to create the boxes. You will need more pages of cards if you have more than two people playing the game. Write the numbers 1 to 10 on the cards over and over until the last card. If you have younger players, you can just use the numbers, 1 to 4, or 5. Cut out these cards. On another paper, draw circles. Cut out the circles. These will be the lucky coins you will use to pay to the pot when you cannot play a card. You can also use pennies, green M&M's, or green grapes. You choose.

2-When you are ready to play, **deal** out the cards, one at a time, face down, beginning with the player on the dealer's left. Each player will also get the same number of items used for pay-coins, grapes, or whatever you have chosen to use. The **object** of the game is to be the first player to use up all of their green cards. First person on the left of the dealer plays any card in the middle of the table. The next player must play a number card above or below the first card on the table. In the example above, the first player laid down the number 5. The next player added the number 4 and the next player added the number six. The number 3 or 7 would have to follow. If a player cannot play the next card, they must pay by putting one of their coins in a pot. When all the numbers (1-10) have been added, the row can be removed. The next player can lay down any number card. The first player to get rid of all their cards, wins the pot. If a player runs out of coins, they are out of the game. You may not wish to play for pay, so then only pass out a few cards on the deal. The remainder of the cards goes in a pile. If a player cannot play a card on their turn, they must take a card from this pile.

Wishing you the luck of the Irish! -Ms. Susan

