

Finding Something to Do

Story By: Judie Eberhard



Jessie was so bored one summer day in June. She wanted something different to do. What can I do that would be fun but different she asked herself. She was tired of watching T.V., she read all her books, and her friends were on vacation. Suddenly, she saw the lawn mower sitting in the garage. Jessie noticed the lawn was tall and shaggy looking. "Mom," she yelled. "I think I will mow the lawn." Her mom ran into the garage and said, "Oh no you don't." "You're too young to mow the lawn." Jessie said, "I'm ten years old and know how to do it. Besides, it would help Dad out, and he won't have to worry about it over the weekend."

Mom was very hesitant, but she decided to let Jessie give it a try. After all, she was home and would keep an eye on her. Jessie already knew how to start the lawn mower from watching her Dad. She was a real pro. She checked the gas to make sure it was full, had on her sneakers for safety, and even put on her gardening gloves to protect her hands. Mom watched from the kitchen window. Wow, she thought to herself. Jessie really does know how to mow the lawn. She was very careful around the flowers and trees. When she finished, she felt so good, but she was so hot. Mom brought her some ice tea and said, "You sure did a great job." "Dad will be very surprised."

Later that day, Dad came home and said to Jessie's mom, "You didn't have to mow the lawn." "I was going to do it on Saturday." "It looks great though." "Thanks." "I didn't mow it, Jessie did." "Wow, our little girl is growing up!" Dad told Jessie what a great job she did. "It was fun, and I will do it again next week," said Jessie. The neighbor next door came by and asked Jessie if she wanted to mow his lawn and make some money. "Sure!" said Jessie. Jessie began mowing their lawn, and then two other neighbors asked also. Jessie was now mowing lawns for three neighbors and making some money on her summer vacation. She was no longer bored! I won't have time to spend my money, she laughed to herself.

Use the information in the story to answer the questions below.

1. What month did the story take place?

- A. May B. June C. July D. August

2. Where was the lawn mower kept?

- A. In the garage B. In the tool shed C. Near the back porch D. None of the above

3. What word from the story describes Mom when Jessie wanted to mow the lawn?

- A. Lonely B. Mad C. Happy D. Hesitant

4. How many neighbors did Jessie mow lawns for?

- A. One B. Two C. Three D. Four

5. Why did Mom give Jessie ice tea?

- A. Jessie was hot from mowing the lawn.
B. Mom was out of lemonade.
C. Jessie asked for ice tea.
D. None of the above

