

Roberto really wanted a summer job. His family didn't have a lot of extra money, and he wanted to earn some cash to spend at the arcade and snack shop with his buddies. The problem was that he was only thirteen. That was too young to get a work permit for a regular job, so Roberto decided to start his own business. He put up flyers around town offering to do odd jobs such as mowing lawns and tutoring younger kids.

Before long, Roberto had more jobs than he could handle. Apparently, the community was really in need of services like his. Roberto spent his mornings mowing lawns and doing other yard work. In the afternoons, he helped little kids with their reading and mathematics. Pretty soon all the neighbors were bragging about their hometown self-made businessman. His parents were incredibly proud of him, and the money was rolling in, but Roberto didn't even have time to spend it. Besides, he missed seeing his friends. He didn't want to give up his jobs, but he longed for some leisure time to spend at the arcade and snack shop.

Meanwhile, Roberto's friends were running out of their spending money because all they did was spend time playing video games and buying pizza and sodas. One morning, as he was finishing up his third lawn-mowing job for the day, Roberto had a brilliant idea. His friends could take over some of his jobs. Then they would all have time and money to spend together. Roberto and his friends put the plan into effect immediately, and soon they all divided their time between working and hanging out. The lawns all across town had never looked better, the younger children were mastering math and reading, and Roberto and his friends knew they were making a difference.