

# The Lawnmower

(One participant is on his hands and knees as the mower.)

Owner : (Yanking imaginary rope, while mower sputters) This darned old mower, I can't get it going. I need some help. (Gets help from student.)

Helper #1: So you just want me to yank on this rope, and get it started ? That's easy ! (Yanking rope)

Mower : (Splutters, bobs up and down)

Helper #1: I'm sorry. I can't seem to do it. Have you checked the gas ?

Owner : Yes, I have. Thanks anyway. Well, let's see who else has a strong arm. (Selects another student) What I need you to do is to give a real good yank on the starting rope and make it run.

Helper #2 : Sure thing. (Yanks rope a couple of times.)

Mower : (Bobs up and down, sputters, coughs)

Helper #2 : Sorry, I can't do it either.

Owner: Well, there's got to be somebody who can help.

Helper #3: I can try! (Tries, without success.) Nope, sorry.

(Continue in this vein until all of the students have had a chance to help. You may try using the last 3 students in a joint effort or use pairs to speed up the process.)

Owner (exasperated, wipes brow) : What I need is someone big and strong (Selects a parent/audience member OR the teacher)

Owner (to selected person): Okay, now give it a good yank...

Selected person does the action, and owner shows sigh of relief that motor is running.

Mower : (Splutters, coughs, starts to vibrate and run)

Owner : There. All it needed was a real jerk.