

Make a **Difference** Tree Stump Stools

Tip:
cut stool to
a height of
15" - 18"

Tip:
save scraps
and cut to 1"
rounds for your
science center

Tip:
visit
cdcccc.org
for more DIY
tipsheets
and videos

Materials:

- dead, dry tree stump
- saw
- low VOC clear wood sealant
- batting
- fabric
- staple gun and staples
- recycled jeans
- sandpaper
- safety glasses

Steps:

1. Look for an already dead or downed tree.
2. Cut to child seat height.
3. Remove the bark or look for a tree where the bark is already gone.
4. Check for mold or critters. If present, do not use.
5. Let it dry out for a few weeks. It will feel lighter when dry.
6. When dry, clean using a rough brush or sandpaper to loosen all the dirt.
7. Seal using a low VOC clear wood sealant.
8. Add the finishing touches. A little bit of batting from the fabric store and some fabric add softness. Get creative and recycle the tops of jeans to hold everything in place and hide the staples.

Remember, as the adult you are the creator of the environment. Designing spaces that engage the learner help children discover who they are.



The Benefits of Combining Nature and Furniture

1. Tree stump stools are eco-friendly! Talk to children about reusing and repurposing the trees. This is a wonderful way to provide a connection with nature and appreciate the raw beauty of the wood.
2. Make it child-size. When children's feet have contact with the floor it helps them maintain balance and easily adjust their posture. This stability allows them to easily manipulate play materials and interact with their environment.



Capital District
Child Care Council

www.cdcccc.org    