

### Introduction:

You are an intern working at the park. One of the park staff members has a question for you. Walk to the red circle to get started.

### Final Question:

Do you want to cut down the dead tree or leave it up?

**Agent 1:**  
Park Staff

**(1) Description:** This beautiful old oak tree has died. We've cut the branches off so they don't fall, but we haven't decided what to do with the trunk. Would you gather some information and help us decide?

**Agent 2:**  
Visitor

**(2) Description:** It seems funny not to cut the whole tree down and get rid of it. When I come to the park, I expect it to look clean and nice. A dead tree is just ugly and depressing.

**Agent 3:**  
Visitor  
(Parent)

**(3) Description:** Hmmm--this doesn't look very safe to me. Now that the tree is dead the wood will start to rot and get soft and fill with bugs. Ick! It won't have any strength left and could fall down at any moment. Imagine if it fell on a visitor!

**Agent 4:**  
Beetle

**(4) Description:** Yum! That dead tree trunk looks like a feast to me! I'm going to crawl in there and start munching!

**Agent 5:**  
Wood-  
pecker

**(5) Description:** This should be good! I love to eat all the beetles and bugs that live in dead trees. This tree also looks like a perfect place for me to build a nest!

**Agent 6:**  
Final  
Decision

**(6) Description:** What do you think? Do you think the tree trunk should be taken down, or left up for now?

**Choice:**    Cut it down                      **OR**                      Leave it up

**Agent 7:**  
Cut it  
down

**(7) Description:** Some of the park staff members cut down the tree trunk. Visitors are don't have to worry about the tree falling down on them, and they enjoy the view full of green, living plants. The woodpecker and beetle, however, have to find a new place to eat.

**Agent 8:**  
Leave it  
up

**(8) Description:** The beetles and woodpeckers are happy to have found a place to live and eat! Visitors are enjoying the opportunity to watch the woodpeckers at work. Park staff members will keep an eye on it to watch for safety issues.