

KAREN AMAYA

Undergraduate, Elementary Education
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CLASSROOM

The environment at Libala Primary School was so positive. Students wanted to know about us and what we do in the States. They were open minded to my teaching methods, which contrasted with what they knew. The teachers were open to sharing their routines and lessons. Everyone made me feel welcomed and motivated. I feel I have become a better educator by becoming more culturally aware.



COMMUNICATION

While talking with previous travelers in our class really prepared me for travel, bonding with the group during travel truly strengthened the experience. We stayed connected through group chats and shared all of our photos. I was lucky to share a dinner with four amazing peers during our last night in Livingstone. We went around the table reflecting on our favorite memories of the trip. It was one of those conversations that fully establishes new friendships – this is one great thing I earned from IPDS.



Check Out Karen's IPDS Blog: <https://buffalostateipdszambia.weebly.com/karen>

FAVORITE MEMORIES

- I treasured our Mukambi Safari adventure. The location, sunset boat ride, lack of Internet = PEACE.
- We hiked to the bottom of Victoria Falls and walked a bridge to the center. We even stood in the middle of Zimbabwe and Zambia, where the Falls separate the two!
- Our visits to the orphanage had me in tears. The women were so kind and humble and welcomed us with song.

*I became a more positive person
& learned how many things I take for
granted - my education, my rights,
the opportunities I enjoy.*

