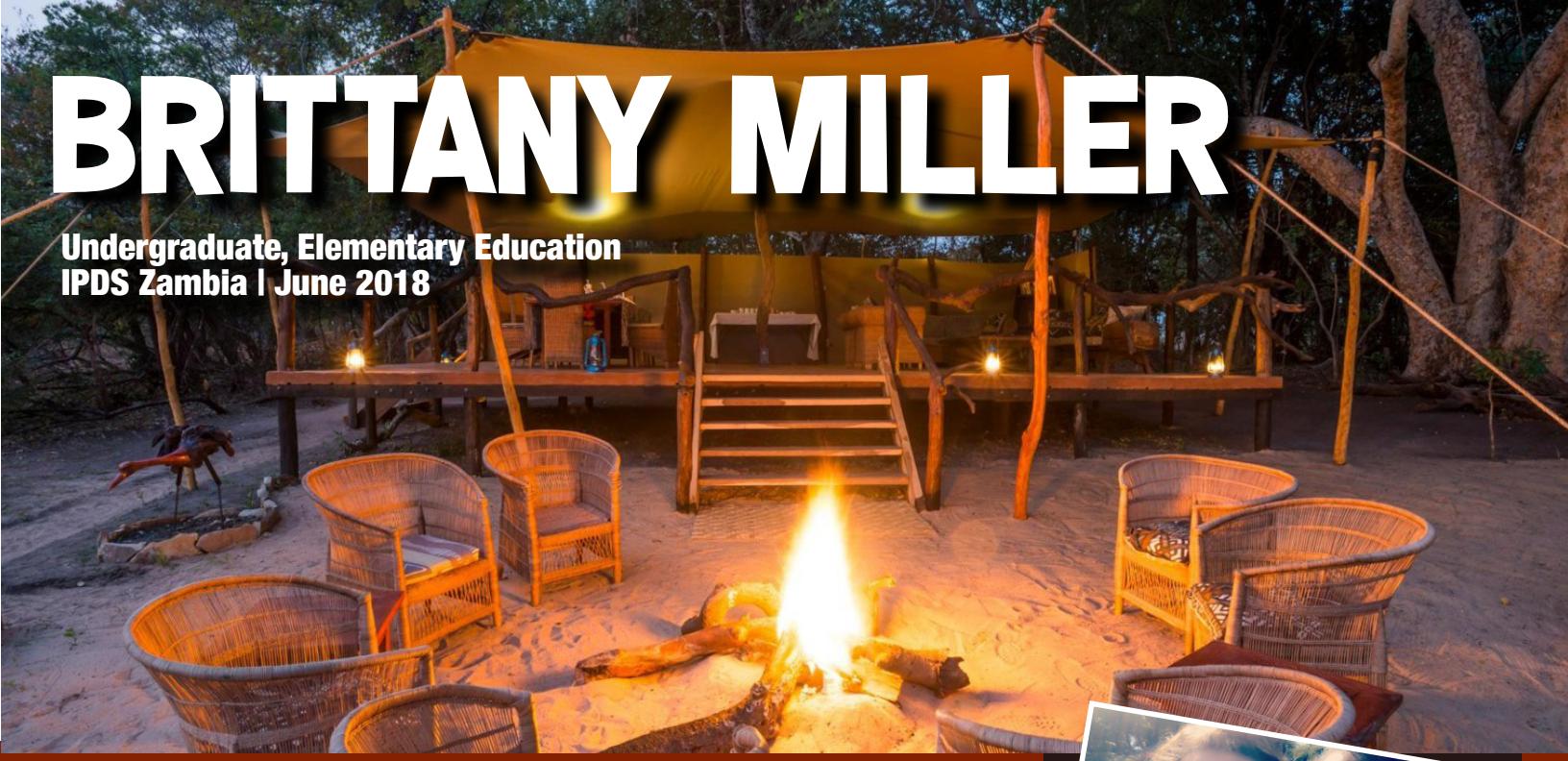


# BRITTANY MILLER

Undergraduate, Elementary Education  
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## REALIZATIONS

Exposing myself to international experiences through IPDS allowed me to take a hard look at who I am as an educator (*what is my teaching philosophy?*) and as an individual (*what kind of life do I want to live?*). I've realized that I feel most purposeful and happy when I'm able to provide quality education to students living in impoverished or struggling communities. The warmth and joy encrypted in the smiles of the children in Lusaka - children sharing school supplies and selling items to help support their families - made me believe that there is hope for every child's future, no matter what their situation. Embarking on IPDS experiences has molded me into the educator I am today. Without traveling, my fire would not burn as bright for teacher education.

## CELEBRATIONS

I had the opportunity to partake in four African safaris - AMAZING! Within moments of our first safari we encountered a herd of elephants. The mother of the herd was about to charge us because she was protecting the young elephants. I had to keep reminding myself that this wasn't a dream!

We celebrated our last night with a bonfire under a night sky filled with stars. The Mukambi employees talked to us about ways to interact with nature and shared African folktales. They explained how, at one point in time, humans and animals lived together without many conflicts, but in current time humans are more concerned about their own desires than about co-existing. It was humbling and encouraged me to commit to teaching my future students about the importance of sharing the world instead of only taking from it.



Check Out Brittany's IPDS Blog:  
<https://buffalostateipdszambia.weebly.com/brittany>

