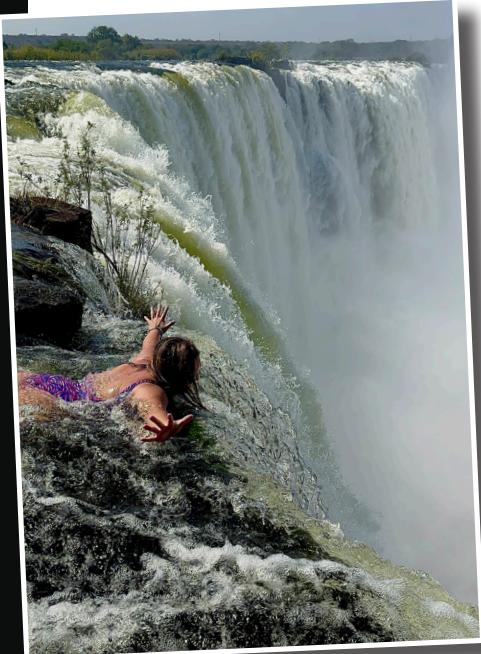


OLIVIA MALDONADO

Graduate, Curriculum & Instruction and TESOL
IPDS Zambia | May/June 2023

A WOW MOMENT

I never in my life thought I would ever do something like hang over Victoria Falls (secured by the guides). It was the best two minutes! I can only explain it as thinking of everything and nothing at all at the same time. It was so beautiful....the rocks, water, rainbow. I was reminded of how big the world is and how grateful I am to be able to explore it!



CONNECTIONS

As an ENL teacher, I'm always thinking about how my students are feeling and how I can make their learning environment and experience optimal. In Zambia I met the most amazing teachers and students. Their eagerness to learn, share information, and develop professional relationships made the experience unforgettable. The differences between our education systems and ways to become a teacher made for great conversations. I am grateful to have met so many people who shared their hardships of learning English and who openly discussed their culture.

PREPARATION

The leaders invited alumni to a meeting and had us read the past blogs. This was great for helping us know what to expect, and what to pack! We also did a lot of reading about Zambia, which helped us to understand the recent developments in the country and how politics have impacted education.



Check Out Olivia's IPDS Blog:
<https://buffalostateipdzambia.weebly.com/olivia>



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