

Zimbabwe

Emma Wieseke



Where is your country?

- Zimbabwe is located in Southern Africa.
- Zimbabwe has four surrounding neighbors, Zambia, South Africa, Botswana, and Mozambique.
- Zimbabwe homes one of the largest waterfalls in the world, Victoria Falls.
- Zimbabwe has eleven national parks. Two are Nyanga National park and Matusadona National park.
- Victoria Falls National park is home to Victoria Falls and the significant ecosystem to the east and south of the Zambia
- Zimbabwe is approximately twenty-five times smaller than the United States.



What are some interesting facts about its history?



- The first people of Zimbabwe were believed to be the Khoisan.
- The Khoisan are believed to have lived in Zimbabwe as early as 200 BC.
- Zimbabwe got its name from a trading hub, Great Zimbabwe, that was built in the medieval times.
- The hub was used mostly by the Shona tribe.
- Zimbabwe was granted independence from the United Kingdom on April 18th, 1980.
- The nation has been known by several names before Zimbabwe. It went by Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia, Zimbabwe Rhodesia, and finally Zimbabwe.
- In 1980, Zimbabwe gained independence after a 15 year long civil war for independence.

What are some interesting facts about its culture?

- The most common languages used in Zimbabwe are English, Shona, and Ndebele.
- Good morning in Shona is "Mangwanani".
- The official language of Zimbabwe is English, however approximately 70% of the population speaks Shona or Chishona as their first language.
- The most common religion in Zimbabwe is Christianity. Christianity is practiced by 70% of Zimbabwe's population.
- Many local people still practice local and traditional religious beliefs from ancestors and tribes.
- The most popular sports in Zimbabwe are football, rugby, and cricket. The national rugby and cricket teams are extremely successful.



What do you like best about this country?



- Many people in Zimbabwe have a strong belief that mermaids are real.
- Zimbabwe has won eight medals in the Olympic Games. Seven in swimming and one in woman's hockey.
- The word Zimbabwe means 'great house of stones'.
- Since April 12th, 2009, Zimbabwe stopped using their currency and have been using the U.S Dollar, the South African Rand, and the Botswana Pula.
- Zimbabwe is densely populated country, with a population over 14 million people and 16 official languages.

How does Fishers Junior High benefit from having families from this country as a part of our school and community?

Fishers Junior High (FJH) and the community benefit in so many ways from having Zimbabwean families in Fishers. FJH benefits from having families from Zimbabwe because it is a great way for people to learn new things about each other and other countries. The community benefits from having Zimbabwean families in it because it makes the community more diverse. A more diverse community provides real life lessons in diversity. A diverse community can introduce Zimbabwean culture into everyday life. People can learn about Zimbabwe and their way of life and how it is different from ours. Zimbabwean families benefit Fishers because they come up with new ideas or ways to make Fishers a better place to live. FJH benefits from having Zimbabwean families as a part of our school and community because they can help students learn in different ways and become a better person. FJH benefits from Zimbabwean families as a part of our community because we are able to learn about the world from those around us.

Bibliography:

- “12 Interesting Facts About Zimbabwe.” *Afrikanza*, Afrikanza, 11 Nov. 2020, afrikanza.com/blogs/culture-history/facts-about-zimbabwe.
- Discover Africa Safaris. “What Languages Are Spoken in Zimbabwe?” *Discover Africa Safaris*, Discover Africa Safaris, www.discoverafrica.com/faq/what-languages-are-spoken-in-zimbabwe/.
- Gambanga, Vanessa. “10 Interesting Facts About Zimbabwe .” *MyGuideZimbabwe*, 30 July 2020, www.myguidezimbabwe.com/travel-articles/10-interesting-facts-about-zimbabwe.
- Logan, Ikubolajeh. *WBO Student*, www.worldbookonline.com/student-new/#/article/home/ar616875.
- Mavaza, Masimba. “The Importance of Zimbabwe's History.” *Diaspora and Africa News*, 1 Sept. 2019, newsouth.com/the-importance-of-zimbabwes-history/.
- Migiros, Geoffrey. “Which Countries Border Zimbabwe?” *WorldAtlas*, WorldAtlas, 19 Sept. 2018, www.worldatlas.com/articles/what-countries-border-zimbabwe.html.
- Nag, Oishimaya Sen. “The Culture Of Zimbabwe.” *WorldAtlas*, WorldAtlas, 24 Dec. 2018, www.worldatlas.com/articles/the-culture-of-zimbabwe.html.
- “Religion in Zimbabwe.” *SpainExchange Country Guide*, www.studycountry.com/guide/ZW-religion.htm#:~:text=At%20the%20moment%2C%20Protestantism%20is%20the%20most%20common,the%20largest%20following.%20Roman%20Catholic%20Christianity%20in%20Zimbabwe.
- Staff, Editorial, et al. “48 Interesting Facts about Zimbabwe.” *The Fact File*, 20 Mar. 2020, thefactfile.org/zimbabwe-facts/.