Stacy Alaribe High School

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Africa- A Lifelong Experience

Some people say that when they first visit Africa, it is a great experience and they would like to go back sometime in the future. In my opinion, I think that Africa is wonderful. I also think that this is the best place to bring your children and teach them about the different types of people and their religion that they practice.

The first time I went to Nigeria (Africa) I was a baby. The second time I went back was at the age of twelve. This trip I took was an amazing experience and I got to learn a lot of things.

When I stepped into Nigeria for the first time, it felt very awkward because I was not used to seeing a different world besides the United States. The first place we went to was the airport. At the airport, we waited and waited for our luggage. When the luggage came out, my parents told us to wait outside for

the car that was going to pick us up and take us home. While outside, I felt a drop of hot rain on my shoulders. I told my sisters' to see if they had felt that to, they said yes. All of us thought that was unusual and strange. My Uncle who was driving a blue car, pulled over to where my family stood, he got out to assist us with our luggage. When he was finished, all of us got into the car and drove off. In the car, my Uncle talked about how Nigeria was a great place and the distinguishing things we will see. The blue car had finally pulled up to the house where my family would be staying for 2 months. We got out of the car, then looked at the house and thought that was one of the most magnificent homes we had ever seen. We got out our luggage, went inside to unpack our things and see which room all of us will be taking. Once we got situated, our parents took us to see people. When we reached the house I observed the Nigerian traditional clothing that people were wearing and the types of food they ate. We sat down and the people served us a variety of food, such as Fofo soup, Chin-Chin, and Coconut. Once we finished eating the food, the adults decided to crack the coconut and make a toast. Then we said our goodbyes and left. When we were gone, our parents then decided that we should go to a farm. At the farm, we saw ladies and men carrying baskets on their heads, the baskets I observed were full of food and other things. My parents told us that when they were little they used to carry baskets on their head.

We left the farm, headed back to our house because we were getting hungry. At our house, my family ate. Then we decided to contact our relatives and have them come over. The door bell rang; they came in and introduced themselves. When my relatives were finished, my dad put on some Nigerian music. The music came on and everyone started to get up and dance, while everyone was dancing, I observed the differences between the music we listen to and the music they listen to, I thought there music was fantastic, and got up to dance. It was getting late; so we said our goodbyes and headed upstairs to bed.

My trip to Nigeria was amazing; I got to experience how other people dress, and the different foods they eat.