

Would you like to play a Nigerian game?
This game is called MOONSHINE BABY and is perfect to play indoors or outside in the sunshine!



The objective is to have 'it' determine who 'baby' is. You need sticks, stones, pebbles, chalk, or anything else that can be used to trace an outline. It can be played with 3 or more players. Here are the rules:

One player is chosen as 'it' and that person hides. The other players choose a player to be 'baby'. 'Baby' lies down, and the other players outline him/her with the materials. 'Baby' rejoins the other players and 'it' is called out from hiding, and tries to determine who 'baby' is, based on the outline on the ground. If 'it' guesses right, he/she gets another turn. Otherwise, another player is chosen to be 'it'.



I found two Nigerian proverbs that are VERY good!

"A bird does not change its feathers because the weather is bad" and "The owl is the wisest of all birds because the more it sees, the less it talks."

Use an NIV translation bible to look up these scripture verses, then write the FIRST letter of the FIRST word of each to form an important name in Nigeria!

- Isaiah 37:31 _____
- Numbers 32:23 _____
- 1 Corinthians 9:1 _____
- 2 Peter 1:12 _____
- Ezekiel 44:25 _____
- John 2:6 _____
- 2 Chronicles 20:18 _____
- Leviticus 6:4 _____


Hope you enjoyed this issue! "Til next time,
Your friend, Shirley

Facts from: www.nationmaster.com ; www.motherlandnigeria.com and Compass Direct News. Recipe from Kids of Courage, used by permission from The Voice of the Martyrs Inc www.persecution.com Answer to puzzle: OBASANJO (the president)
World Kids PAL Page is a ministry of IMOF Inc, 8069 FM 1251E, Henderson, TX.
Tel: (903) 889-2233 E-mail: shirley@imofinc.org www.imofinc.org

World Kids

Fun facts for kids!

True stories!



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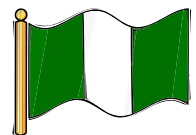
Can you guess in which country
9 out of every 10 Christians
goes to church at least once
each week?



The answer is NIGERIA! (In the USA only 4 out of 10 Christians do so!!) Almost half the population of Nigeria is Christian, and the other half is mostly Muslim, and this leads to problems in many areas, as we shall see later. Nigeria is named after the River Niger which flows through that part of West Africa. You can find Nigeria easily on a map as it is in the middle of Africa, on the corner of the bulge, and borders the Atlantic Ocean. It lies just north of the equator and its neighbors are Cameroon, Niger and Benin.



Nigeria has an area of over 356,700 sq.miles, and so it is larger than Texas but smaller than Alaska. It has 36 states with over 133 million inhabitants, giving it the largest population in Africa. Until only a few years ago, the capital of Nigeria was Lagos, but since this (still the largest Nigerian city) is located on the coast near the western border, it was decided to move the capital to Abuja, which is in the center of the country. The Nigerian flag consists of a white vertical stripe between two green ones.



The main language spoken in Nigeria is English, although there are more than 250 different ethnic groups and many have their own languages. Some of the biggest groups are:

Hausa/Fulani people - mostly Muslim

Yoruba and Ibo people - mostly Christian.

The northern states are home to mostly Muslims (70% with only about 15% Christians) while in the southern states the reverse is true. Many of the Muslim states have adopted strict "Sharia"



laws which are based on commands in the Quran or Koran (the Muslim holy book) as well as Muslim traditions and opinions.

Certain things are forbidden and called "haram" - including stealing, lying and even eating pork! The laws vary in different areas - in some places it is even against the law to play music or watch TV!

Many Muslims want the whole of Nigeria to have to obey these laws, and this has led to fighting and riots. Recently in one town, Muslims attacked and killed 51 Christians, and destroyed 52 churches, 150 homes and 85 shops! But many Nigerian Christians still continue in their faith - meeting to have services in ruined churches, and studying the bible which teaches us not to fight back but to forgive and love our enemies.

True story!

Christianah was a teacher at a secondary school in Northern Nigeria and it was time for her students to take their final exam. The subject was Islamic religious knowledge, which had to be taught by law, no matter if the teacher or any students were not Muslims but Christians.

According to the school rules, Christianah collected up all the papers, books and bags from her students (who were all girls) and then stood in front of the class and dropped them all on the floor - in order to prevent cheating. Then one of the girls started to cry and said she had a copy of the Quran in her bag, and since the teacher had dropped it, she had desecrated (or dishonored) the holy book! This quickly led to a riot when some Muslim extremists learned about what happened, and Christianah was beaten, stoned and killed!



Can you think of anyone in the Bible who was stoned to death? Read Acts 7:59,60

Nigeria was under British rule until 1960, and after it gained its independence it was ruled for many years by different military groups. Finally in 1999 a new constitution was written and President Obasanjo was elected. He is a Christian and has brought about some much-needed changes in the country, although he has not been able to stop the religious riots and violence that occur most often in the northern part of the country. This month, April 2007, there is a general election in Nigeria and so we need to pray that the new president will also be a good Christian and hopefully find ways to prevent more violence and killing.

Because it is near the equator, the temperature in Nigeria does not change much, but there are two seasons - the rainy season (from about May-September) and the dry season during the rest of the year. It is mostly hot but can get cold enough in December and January to need to wear a sweater!!



When Nigerians cook, they don't just cook for themselves and their family, but also for anyone who may come by! Many different kinds of soup are eaten, using different meats including

goat, pigeon or even fish, and various vegetables.



An interesting dish eaten WITH soup is called "funfun"! It is made from the cassava plant, which is peeled, ground, soaked and sieved, then crushed into powder. This is then mixed with boiling water to make a thick, smooth cream eaten with soup!

If you would like to make a tasty Nigerian snack, here is the recipe for "chin chin": Mix together 2 cups flour, 1 1/3 sticks soft butter, 1 egg, 1/2 tsp. baking powder, 1/3 cup water, 1/3 cup milk, and 1/4 cup sugar. Mix to a smooth dough then knead it about 20 times on a floured surface. Roll it out until it is 1/2 inch thick then fry small squares until golden brown.