**Zimbabwe: Lightning Bolt Kills Boy**

**All-Africa, the Herald,**

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201611220123.html>

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A LIGHTNING bolt killed a 10-year-old boy and injured his three friends and a teacher in Binga last week. The boy and his friends were playing under a tree when it started raining in Tinde Village.

Chief police spokesperson Senior Assistant Commissioner Charity Charamba confirmed the incident.

"The boy was playing with three friends under a tree when it started raining. The boys were then struck by lightning including a teacher who was passing by and they all sustained injuries.

They were ferried to hospital, where the boy was pronounced dead on arrival," she said.

Snr Asst Comm Charamba said the other three boys and the teacher were treated and discharged.

"With the onset of the rainy season, members of the public are urged to take precautionary measures when it is about to rain, during or after.

"Please avoid taking shelter at isolated places or being the sole target at open spaces; avoiding contact with electrical gadgets and seeking shelter under isolated tall trees or other objects," said Snr Asst Comm Charamba.

Most areas are expected to have thunderstorms and widespread rains, according to the Meteorological Services Department. Manicaland, Mashonaland, Midlands and parts of Masvingo have since recorded notable heavy rains in the past few days.

Early this month, a 38-year-old woman from Nyajena communal lands in Masvingo and her daughter, together with two other juveniles -- one of them her granddaughter -- died on the spot after they were struck by a lightning bolt.

Four other people, among them the woman's two daughters, her grandchild and a juvenile from the neighbourhood were left nursing severe injuries.