



A RICH PAST  
A PROMISING FUTURE

# Shanghai American School MICROCAMPUS



11 Students  
28 Days  
1 Village

[www.sasmicrocampus.com](http://www.sasmicrocampus.com)





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# The Awareness Test



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# Shanghai American School

MICROCAMPUS

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## Follow Our Journey

Tune in to hear from the students and chaperones about their experiences.

- [FOLLOW MR. T'S JOURNEY](#)
- [READ THE STUDENTS' DAILY BLOGS](#)
- [VIEW THE VIDEO SHOUT OUTS](#)

## Inquiry Projects

Follow the Microcampus students as they engage with their Inquiry Projects.

- [WHAT IS AN INQUIRY PROJECT?](#)
- [READ THE STUDENTS' PROJECT BLOGS](#)

## Service Learning

Follow the Microcampus students as they engage with their Service Learning Projects.

- [LEARN MORE](#)

## Our Vision

Learn more about the Microcampus: the goals, vision, and more.

- [LEARN MORE](#)



# -Mission-



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**Shanghai American School inspires in all students:  
A lifelong passion for learning,  
A commitment to act with integrity and  
compassion,  
The courage to live their dreams.**



# 21st Century Learning



- Integrated and interdisciplinary
- Culturally competent & globally aware
- Integration of technology & multimedia
- Relevant, rigorous and real world
- Project-based and research driven
- Student-centered
- Collaborative
- Creative and innovative



# Are We Ready for the Big Shifts?

(cf. [MacArthur Foundation](#), 21<sup>st</sup>. C. Learning)

## The Big Shifts

- Knowing..... Doing
  - Teacher-centered..... Student-centered
  - The Individual..... The Team
  - Consumption of Info....Construction of Meaning
  - Schools.....Networks (online peers & experts)
  - Single Sourcing..... Crowd Sourcing
- 
- High Stakes Testing..... High Value Demonstrations





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Mission + 21st Century Learning Philosophy =

School culture of  
creativity, innovation,  
and measured  
risk-taking.





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## Origin of Microcampus

“simply connect students to an amazing place during a remarkable stage in their own development and the history of the country in which they live.”

**Craig Tafel**

Grade 6 Science Teacher



**SCHOOL ON A  
MISSION**





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# Our Partners

**Linden Centre**

Brian/Jeanee Linden

Xizhou Village

Yunnan Province





# Overview

March, 2013: 16 SAS-Puxi Grade 8 students will leave Shanghai to spend 4 weeks of the school year in SW China's Yunnan Province.

April, 2013: The first group of SAS-Pudong Grade 8 students will depart.

Place-based **Inquiry Projects** and **Service Learning** keep students immersed with the unique local setting.





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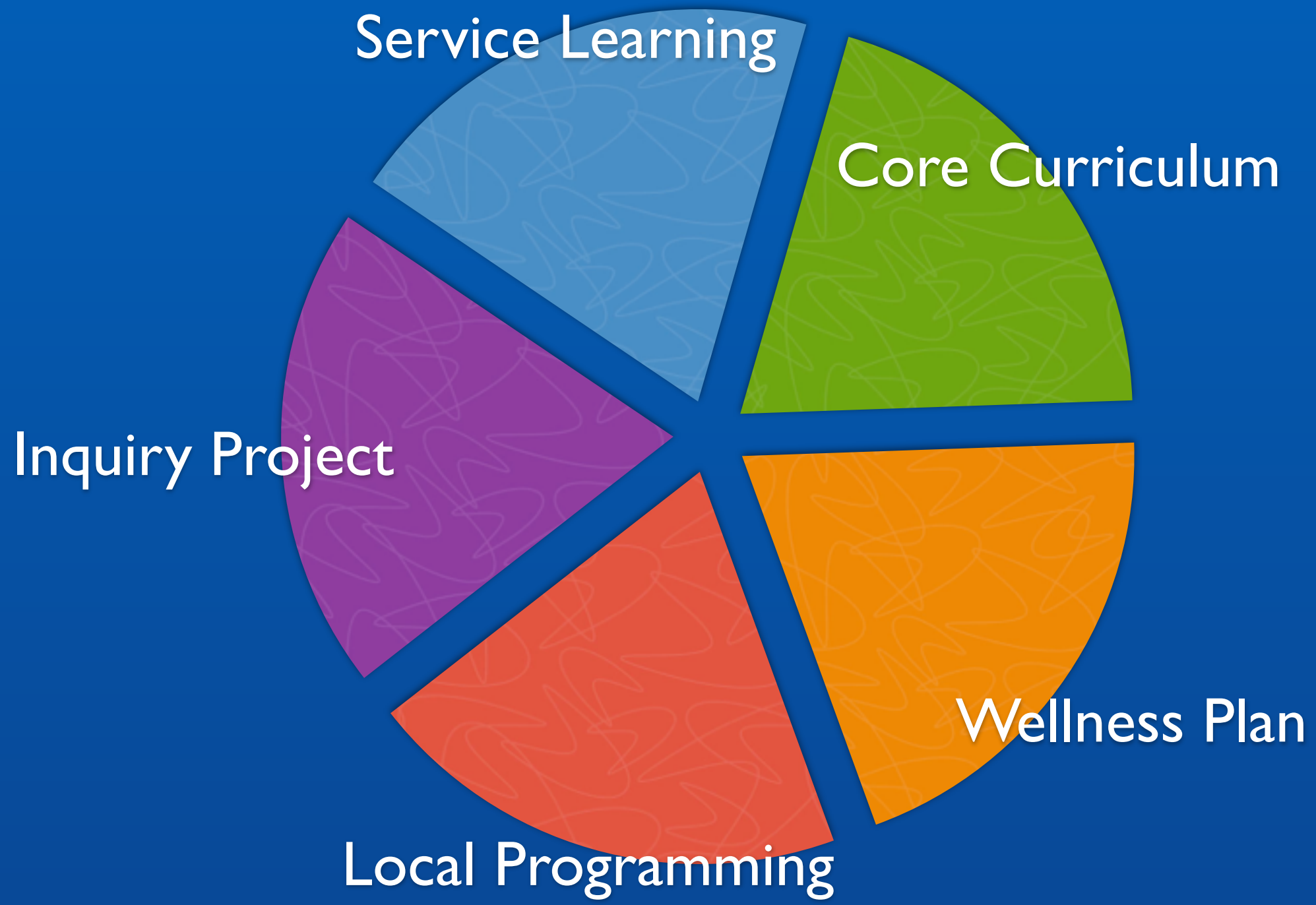






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# Microcampus Curriculum

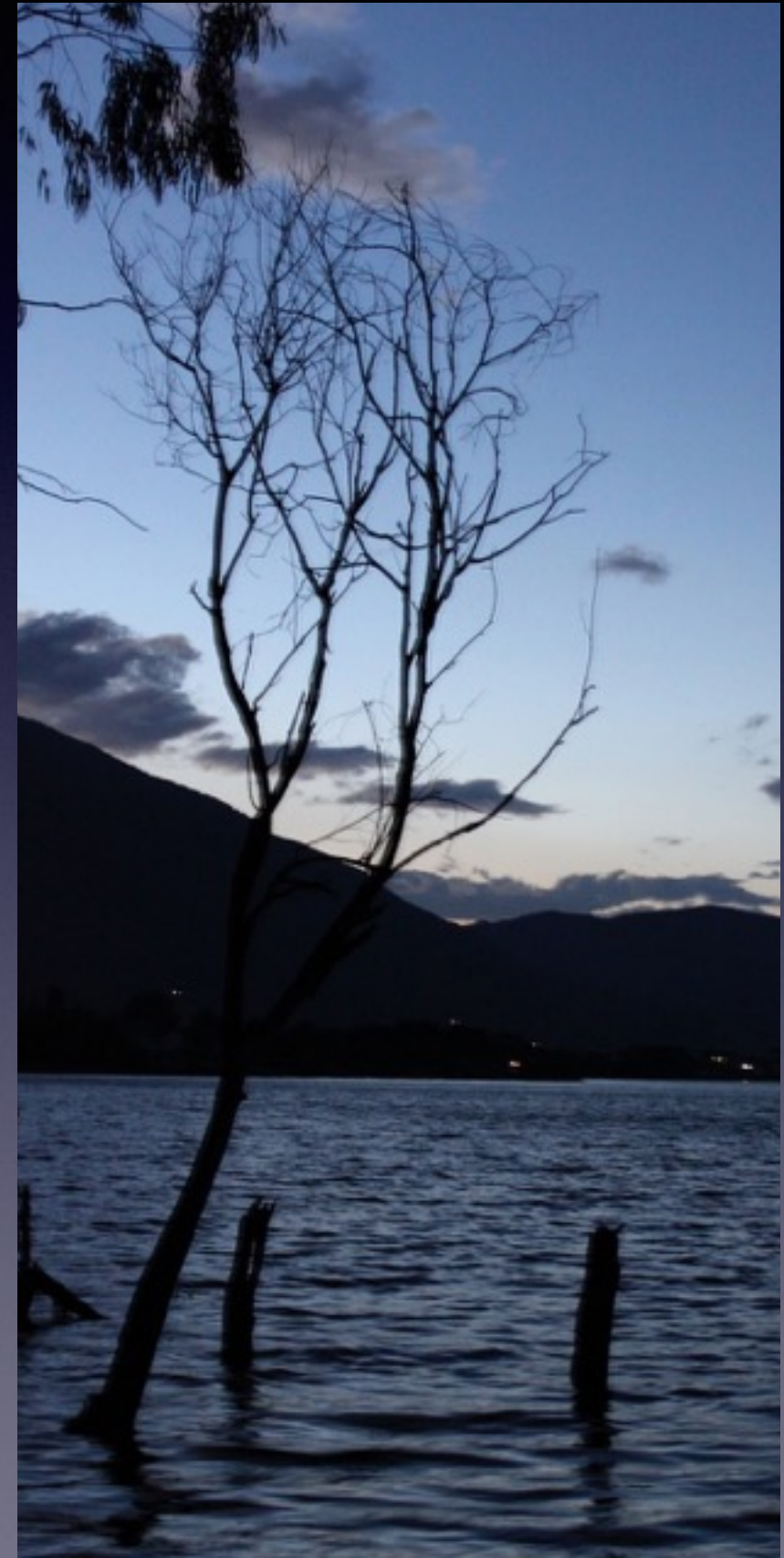


# Microcampus Curriculum Inquiry Project



- Student-selected topics
- Site-specific
- Learning from local experts
- All research done “real time”  
on project website:

[www.sasmicrocampus.com](http://www.sasmicrocampus.com)





# Microcampus Curriculum Inquiry Project Topics



Traditional Chinese Medicine

Embroidery

Lake Erhai Fishing Industry

Local Religions

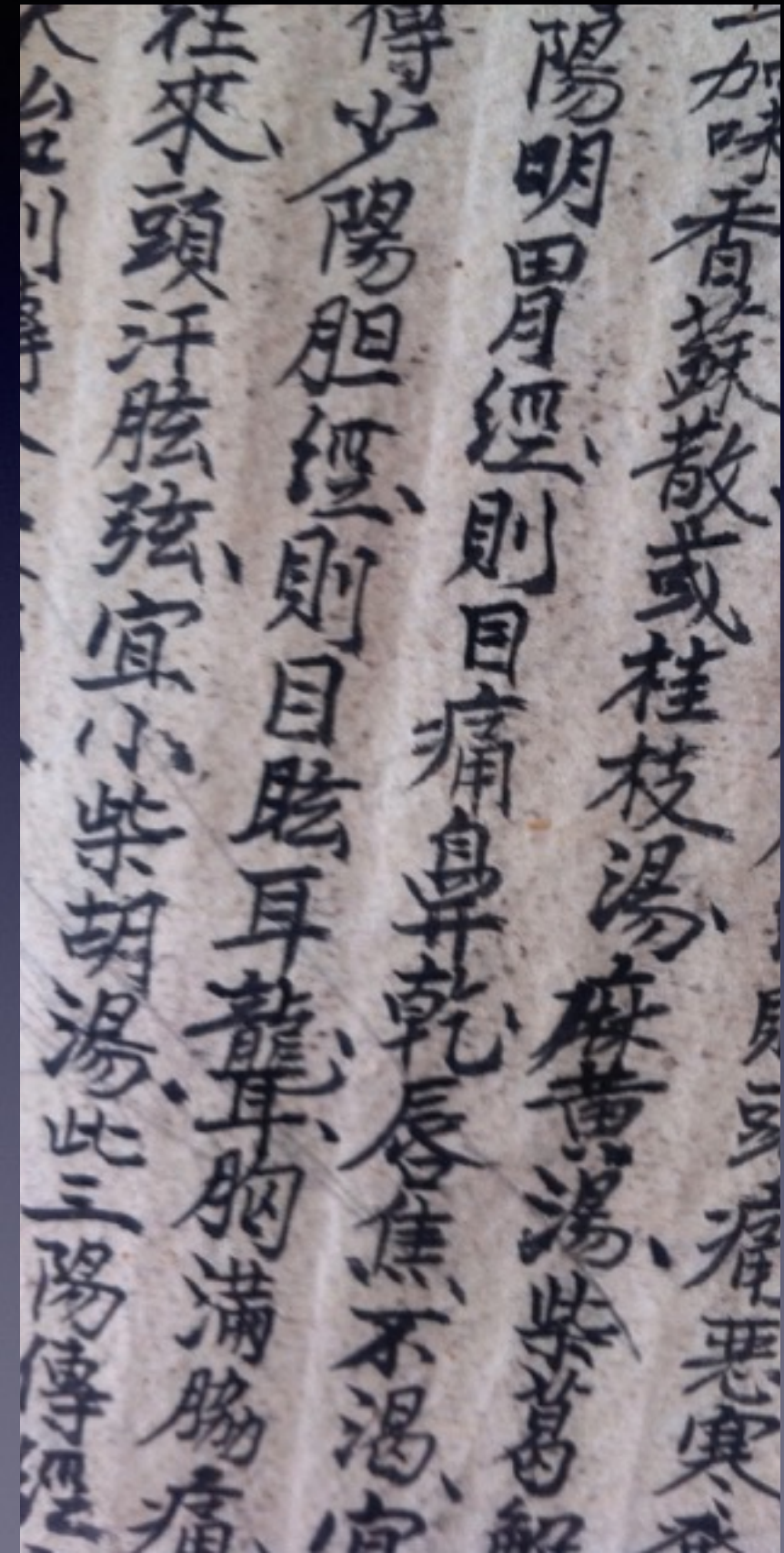
Ethical Behavior in a Small Village

Local Tie-dye Industry

Photography

Bai Minority Tea Ceremony

Bai Minority Headpiece



# A Day In The Life . . .



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Givens: Breakfast, Terrace Time (quiet reflection), Daily Meeting (run by students)

Options: Responsibility placed on students to make appropriate decisions

- Inquiry Project work: Interviewing local villagers, research, processing photos/video
  - Bike ride for wellness
  - Laundry duties
  - SAS school-work
  - Traveling with Linden Centre staff
  - Violin practice
- Service Learning: Focus on capturing oral history of village elders.
  - Exploring Xizhou

Whole Group Activities:

- Visits to local markets and events
- English Language Corner
- Camping weekend
- Trips to Dali Old Town

Evenings:

- Special Linden Centre Events
- Social activities organized by students
- Down time





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# Impact on Learning



Student and parent feedback has been very positive.



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Why am I here?





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I'm here to learn what it truly means to explore my world, my environment, how to be part of my environment. I'm also here to learn to reflect. For so long, doing things and getting it finished then move on was something I've constantly practiced with not just schoolwork, but with literally everything else in my life. At Microcampus, I've learned how to reflect. Reflect on what I did to get where I am now. Reflect and remember every moment of the process. **This is why I am here.**

Sabrina



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Madeleine

To genuinely learn, . . . in a way that no textbook could ever teach me. I'm here to learn skills that will last me for the rest of my life. I'm here not to simulate experiences, but to live them. There's more to our education than information, standards and benchmarks. . . I've learned how I study, how I operate. I've learned how I can manage myself out in the real world without a teacher or parent over my shoulder the whole time. **That's why I'm here.**





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I am here not because they think I am amazing at working and catch up easily but because they think I can lead, I can inspire and hold this team together. I guess that is why this program chose me but I chose it for a different reason. I chose this program because I wanted change I wanted out of the same routine and I wanted an adventure. **Thats why I am here**, the adventure the ups the down's, I needed a rollercoaster and that was not back home.

Noah

“No offense to my teachers, but I learned more about the environment in one week than all the classes I have taken before.”

Shanghai American School  
HS Student  
Summer Science Trip





# Challenges

Keeping up with the work back  
at school.

Nailing down Inquiry Project  
choices in advance.

Funding and cost.

Risk management in China.

Traditional school structures.

Changing mindsets.



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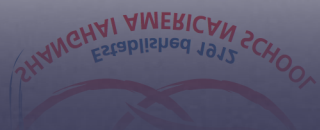




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