

# Bring Educational Opportunities to Rural China



Evergreen Education Foundation

# Who We Are

Founded in 2001, our mission:

- Improving education for children and young adults in rural China
- Promoting information literacy via school and community libraries
- Serving as a bridge between China and the world in joint efforts to better rural education



# What We Do

- [The Library Information Literacy Program](#) focuses on developing rural school and community libraries.
- [The Scholarship Program](#) sponsors promising but financially disadvantaged students.
- [The Teacher Development Program](#) builds the skills, abilities and knowledge of educators and librarians through workshops, conferences, and study tours.

**Program:**

**Library Information Literacy**



# Why Information Literacy

- A must for any 21<sup>st</sup> century learner to inquire, apply, create and share knowledge, participate in society, and pursue personal growth
- Basis for education in humanity, livelihood, health, citizenship, finance, and other areas that are needed to promote new rural development
- Key to educational equity, social equity and balanced development
- Helps transform the rural population into effective lifelong learners

# Why Library?

- Information Service: Equal – Open – Inclusive – Personalized
- Best venue and vehicle to promote information literacy
- Public library: cultural & information center of community
- School library: teaching & learning center for teachers and students



# Library Information Literacy Program

Evergreen helps develop rural libraries through:

- Building the library collection profile that fits the community
- Automating the library circulation and management
- Providing innovative library services

# Evergreen Partner Libraries

We have assisted 54 rural libraries from 9 provinces/areas:

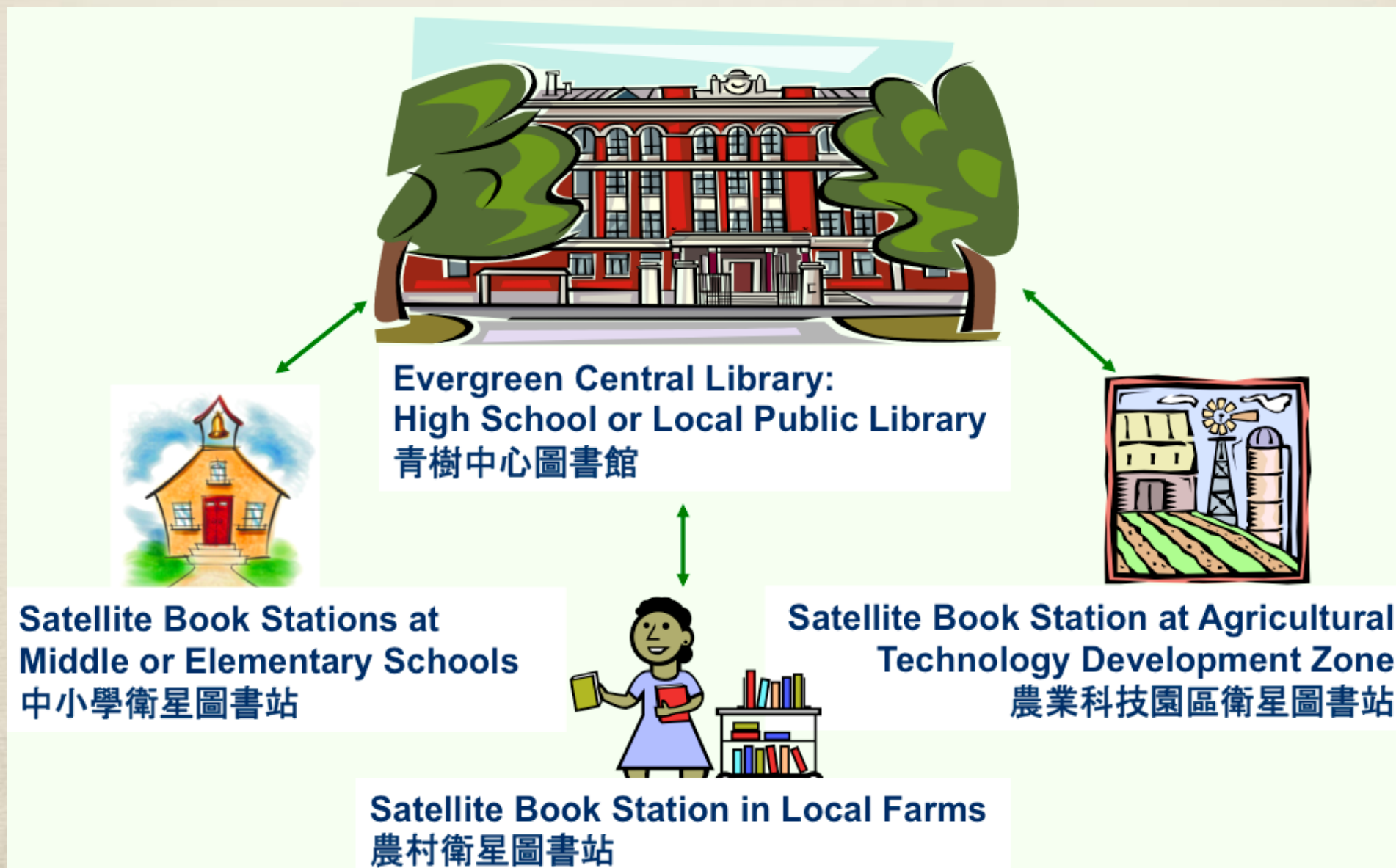


- Qinghai 青海
- Gansu 甘肃
- Shaanxi 陕西
- JiangSu 江苏
- Yunnan 云南
- Guizhou 贵州
- Beijing 北京
- Shanxi 山西
- Guangxi 广西



# Evergreen Library Clusters

A library cluster = 1 central library + multiple satellite libraries



# Innovating Library Information Literacy Services

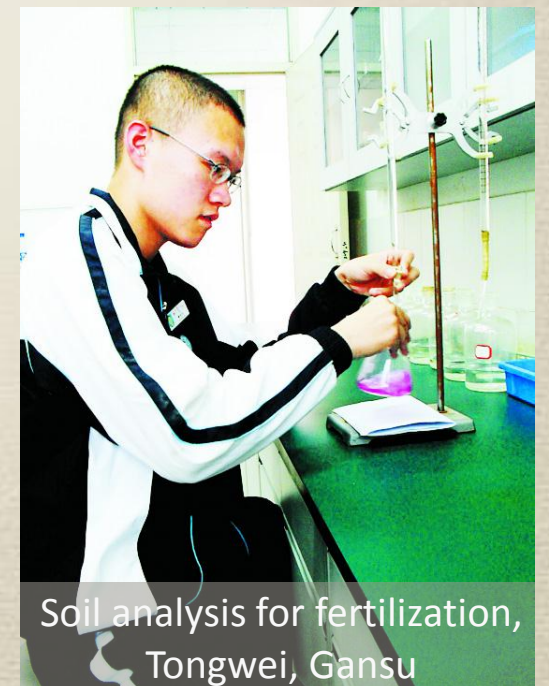
- Small projects: performed within one library, locally initiated
- Extended projects: conducted using collaboration between libraries in one region
- Initiatives: prevalent, pressing, strategically important themes as Evergreen's focus of training and support



# Serving Teachers & Students: Inquiry-based Learning

Emphasizes:

1. Solving authentic problems significant to the local community
2. Engaging students with dynamic and challenging learning environment
3. Encouraging students to develop habits of academically disciplined minds





# Serving Teachers & Students : Inquiry-based Learning

4. Studying proactively through observation, interview, experiment
5. Getting connected with experts
6. Using digital technologies in the work
7. Deploying agile process with prompt assessment and improvement
8. Adding value to community



Tin embroidery oral history, Guizhou



Collecting Dong Folklore, Guizhou



# Serving the Community: Culture & Information & Education Center



Village story time by grassroots library, Guangxi



School library bringing technology to farmers,, Qinghai



School library surveying biogas use, Yunnan



Local ballad teaching by community library, Gansu



**Initiative 1:  
Oral History and  
Local Cultural Studies**



# Walking Horse Culture Oral History



Walking horse culture in a Northwestern Tibetan Autonomous County



# Tin Embroidery Culture Oral History



Tin embroidery culture in a Miao community, Guizhou



# Family and Community Oral History

- Student interviews family or community elderly



Student interviewing Grandma, Tongwei, Gansu

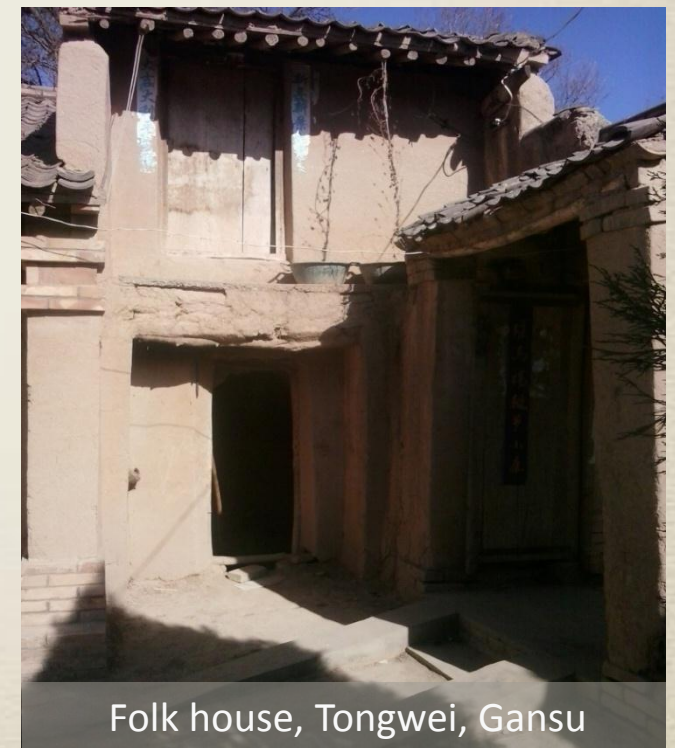
- Train students in non-fiction historical writing



www.gsjb.com

Community labor in Great Leap Forward, Tongwei, Gansu

- Historical knowledge
- Habits of mind
- Research & interview & writing skills
- Intergeneration education



Folk house, Tongwei, Gansu



**Initiative 2:  
Science in the Library**



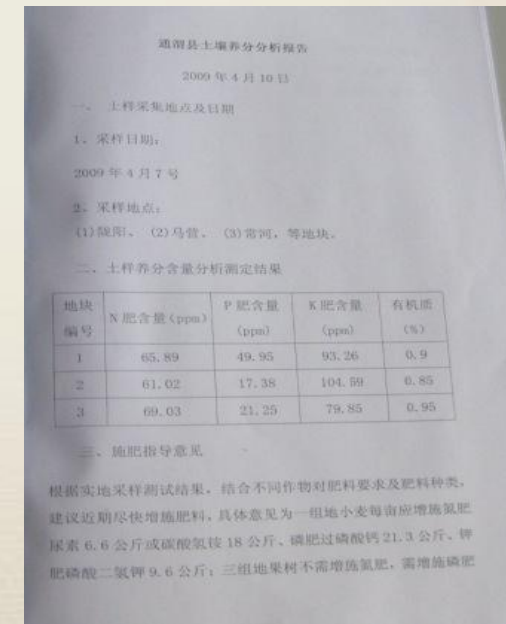
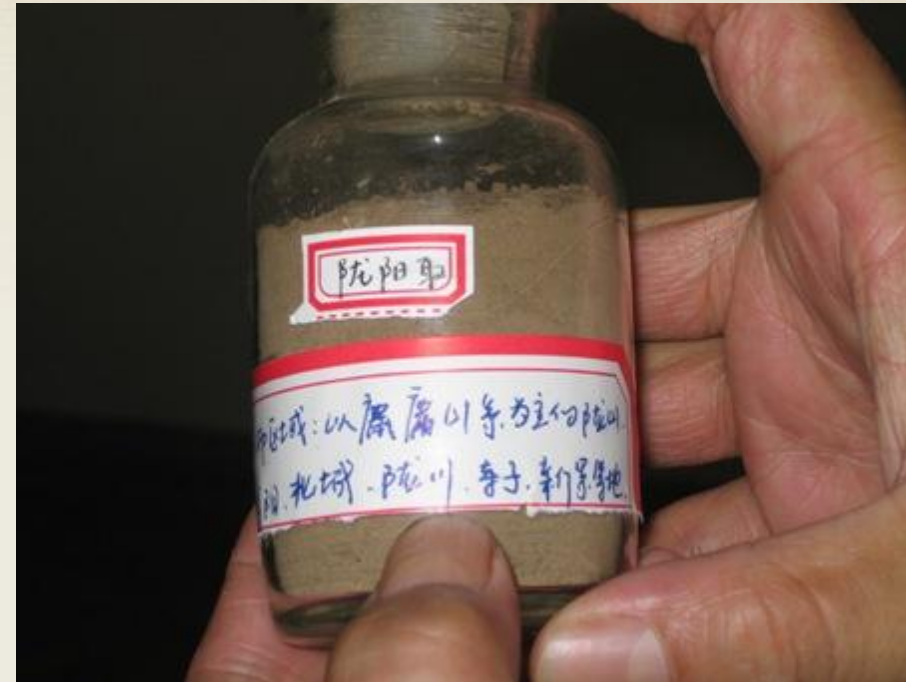
# Studying Local Creatures



Students studying local freshwater jellyfish, Guizhou



# Soil Analysis for Fertilization



Students analyzing soil samples from different villages, Gansu



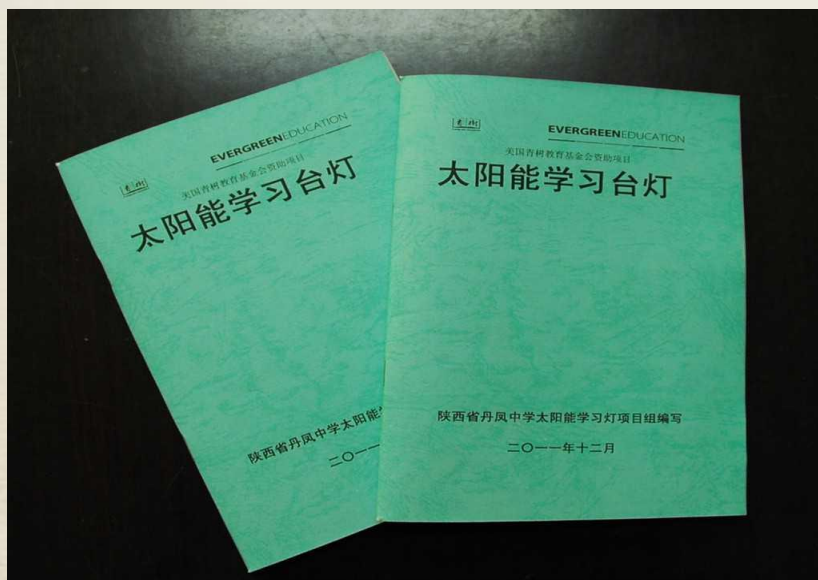
# Studying Water Quality



Students studying water samples of local river, Gansu



# Making Solar Lamps



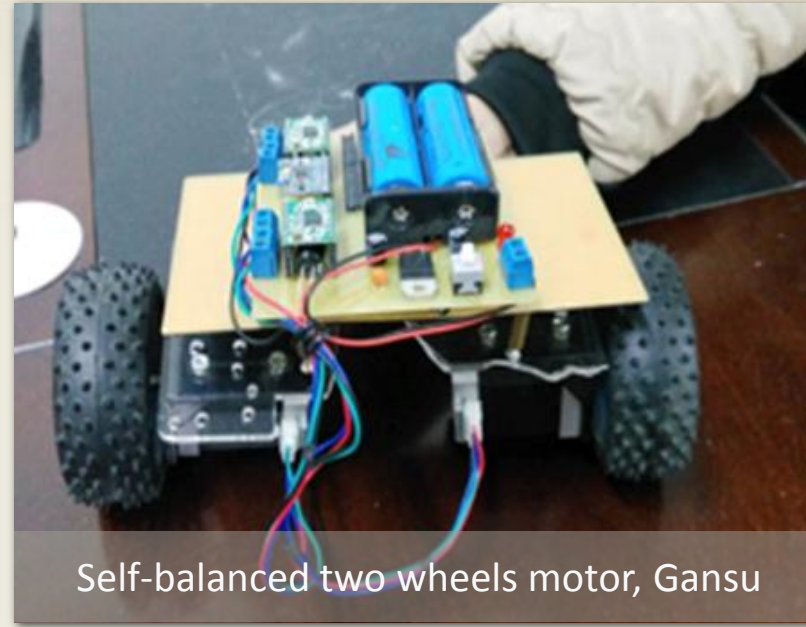
Students experimenting with solar lamp learning kit



# Creative Electronics with Arduino



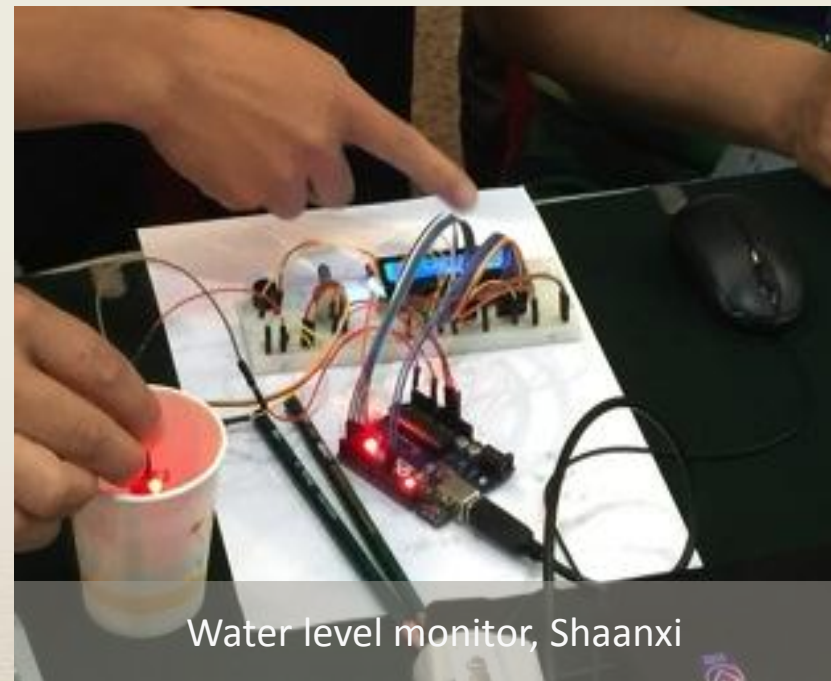
Self-balanced two wheels motor, Gansu



Self-balanced two wheels motor, Gansu



Smart car, Jiangsu



Water level monitor, Shaanxi



# Initiative 3: Community ICT Training



Helping elders surf the web, Tongwei, Gansu



Teaching pupils poster making, Tongwei, Gansu



ICT training for farmers, Tianzhu, Gansu



ICT training for farmers, Tianzhu, Gansu

Nurturing ICT skills and improving digital literacy



# Initiative 4: Community Health Education



Oral healthcare education for students and the community



# **Program: Scholarship**



# Scholarship Program

- Awards scholarships to rural students who have outstanding academic performance and financial need
- Mentors students to give them guidance and moral support
- Employs strict process and applicant evaluation based on yearly performance and feedback from mentors and teachers



# Scholarship Program

**By the end of 2015:**

- **1,926 Scholarships** were provided to 677 individual students from 17 schools located in 9 rural provinces
- **Over 330 students** of the 677 scholarship-winners attended universities, with some admitted to the 1st tier universities such as Peking University and Tsinghua University; Other students were well employed



# Personal Stories



- Qiu Han, Evergreen scholarship student, got admitted to TsingHua University, and volunteered in 2008 Olympic Games



# Personal Stories



- Shang Guojuan, Evergreen scholarship student, now a teacher in an international school in East China, also a core member of Evergreen Science in the Library team.



**Program:  
Teacher Development**



# Training Workshops

- Provide systematic training on innovative learning strategies
- Combine theory and methodology inputs with the field practices
- Take place bi-annually since 2003





# International Conferences

- Information Technology In Education Conferences (ITIE)
  - Include 200-300 educators, library practitioners and researchers, and NGO members from around the world
  - Exchange ideas, methodologies, and practical experiences of library development
  - Expose teachers to a broader view and bigger platform
  - Take place bi-annually since 2004



ITIE2012: Libraries as Community Education Centers, Hangzhou



# Study Tours & Academic Papers



- Study Tours

- Learn about library best practices and the underlying ideas

- Academic Paper Writing

- Co-author with researcher volunteer
- Present in international conferences; publish in peer-review journals.
- Further the exchange between rural educator community, its international counterpart and academia





*Evergreen works hard for the smiles.....*

*It is in this process we find our own value and capability*





# How You Can Help

- [Donate](#) Contribute and help us to do more to bring quality education to disadvantaged communities in rural China.
- [Volunteer](#) Get engaged in our cause.
- [Partners](#) We welcome the opportunity to work with other NGOs, educational institutions, libraries, and businesses to further our goals together.
- [Stay Connected](#) Follow us on [Facebook](#), [YouTube](#), and [YouKu](#) and help spread the word!



✂  
IMPROVE  
information literacy of  
**rural China**

