

Education for a more compassionate world

Humane Education & Human-Animal Interaction (HAI) Through the Lens of Mainland China

Pei Feng Su





ACTAsia was founded in 2006, with the purpose of helping Asian cultures evolve into caring societies, respecting all forms of life.



Our vision

We believe that respect for animals, people and the environment is the most valuable human quality that will lead to a compassionate world.



Three key programmes

· School Education:

Aim to address the cruelty & exploitation at the root by fostering compassion among children.

· Professional Education:

Provide Professional Training and Continuing Professional Development courses for veterinarians & teachers.

· Consumer Education:

Educate consumers on compassionate lifestyle: Compassion in Fashion.



Why Education?

- Low awareness of sentience or animal welfare
- To tackle fundamental issue instead of fixing the leak!
- · To achieve long term changes change human behavior!





Time for a new approach!





Caring For Life Education

ACTAsia's Caring for Life Education (CFL) is a unique six year curriculum for primary schools, Aimed at children aged 6 to 12 years.



Caring for Life Education (CFL) encompasses social welfare and citizenship, animal welfare and environmental issues, and recognizes the interdependence of all living things.





Learning to Live together

- CFL was developed from the United National Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) Four Pillars of Education.
- CFL is a foundation course in Learning to Live Together

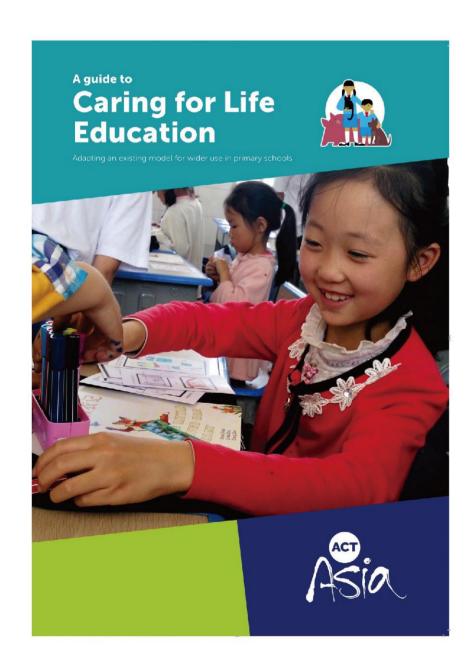
The Caring for Life Education 6 year Curriculum including:

- · Curriculum Framework & Guidelines;
- Curriculum Standards;
- 6 years of lesson plans;
- A guide to Caring for Life Education
 - for wider use in primary schools.

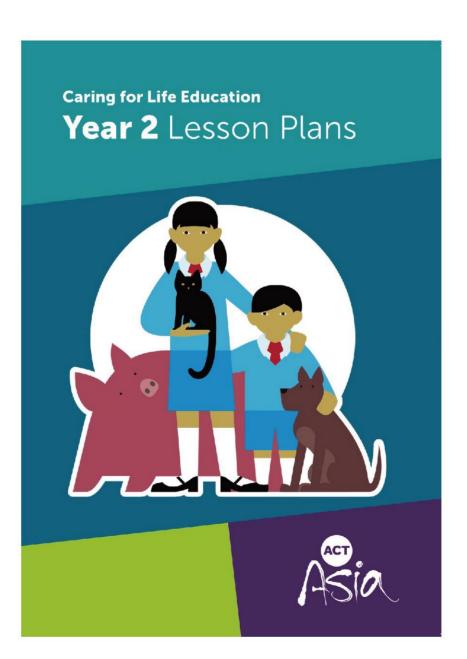












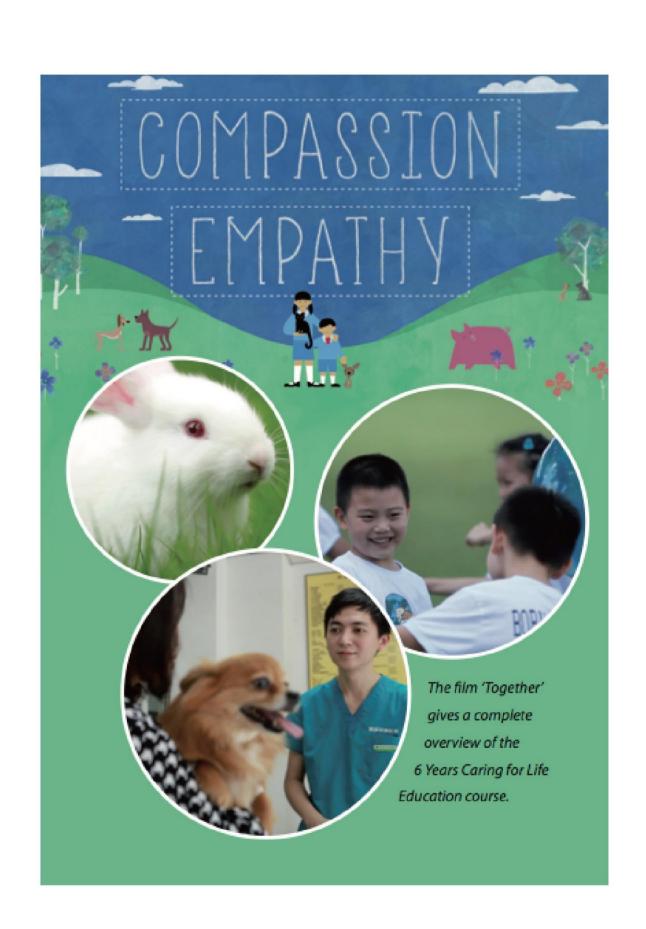




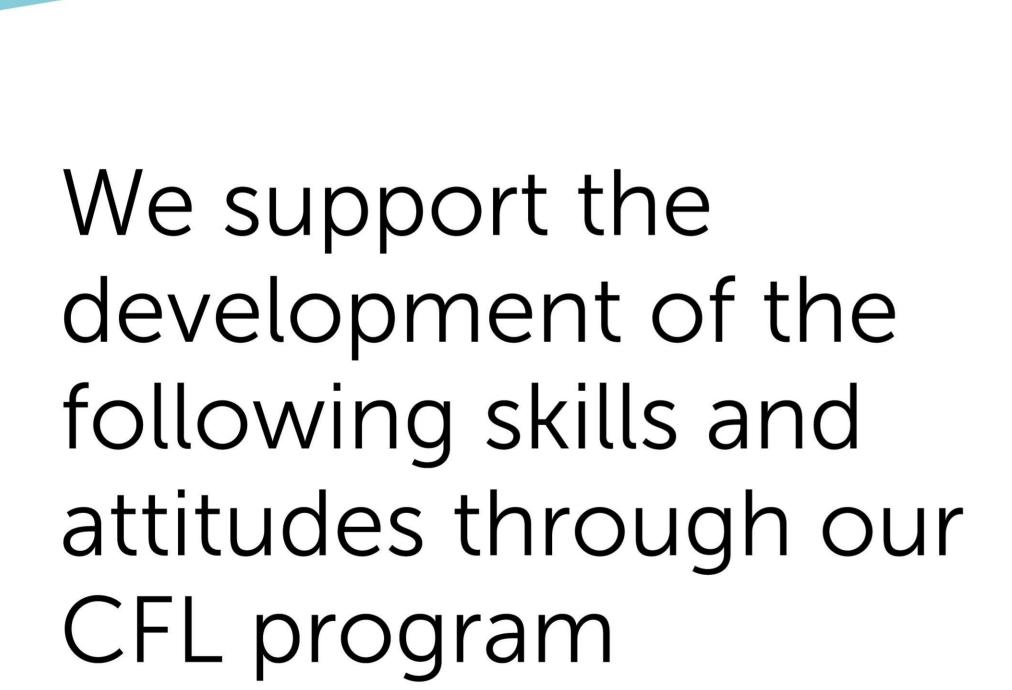


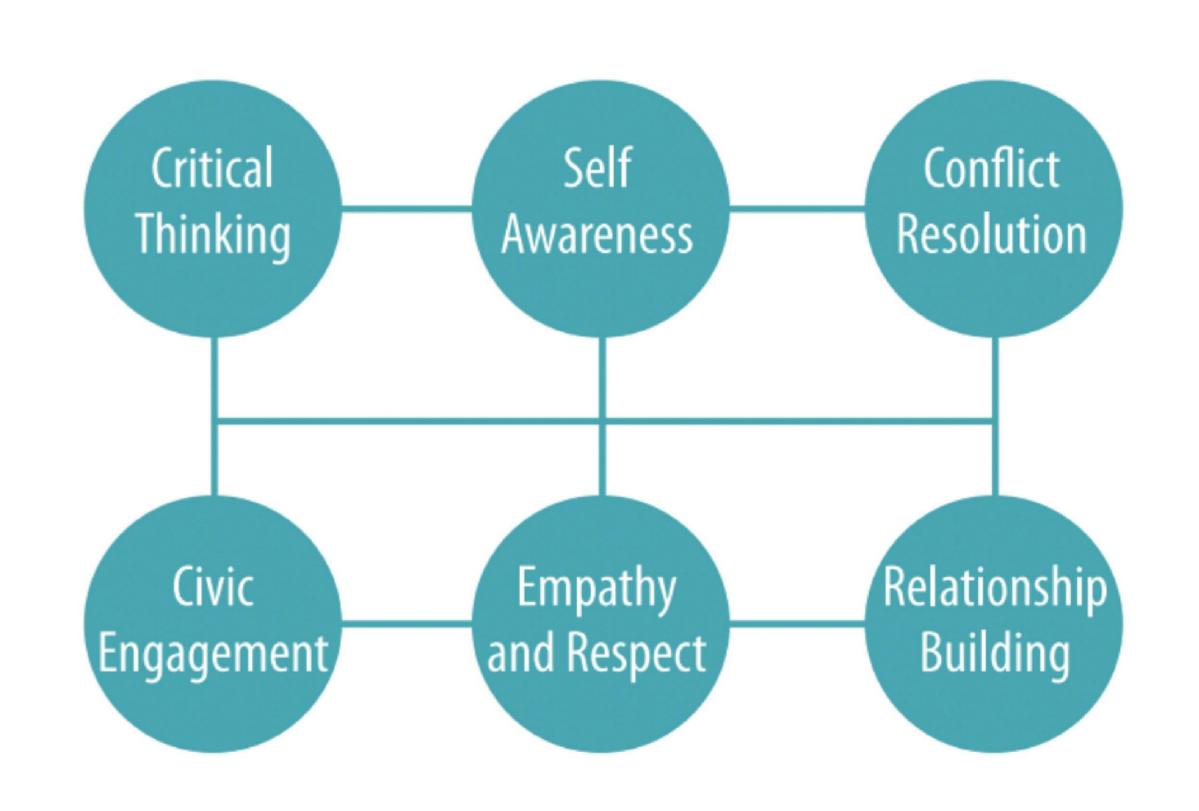
CFL film: Together

- Introduction of CFL
- · As a guided tool for authorities
- Tester lessons









5 Subject Areas

- The Web of Life
- Sentient Beings
- Care and Respect
- Interacting with Others
- Emotional Intelligence





Three Themes



- have emotional intelligence and exercise compassion for suffering of all life forms.
- make humane decisions and exercise civic responsibility.



Sense the World



Know the World



Participate in the World

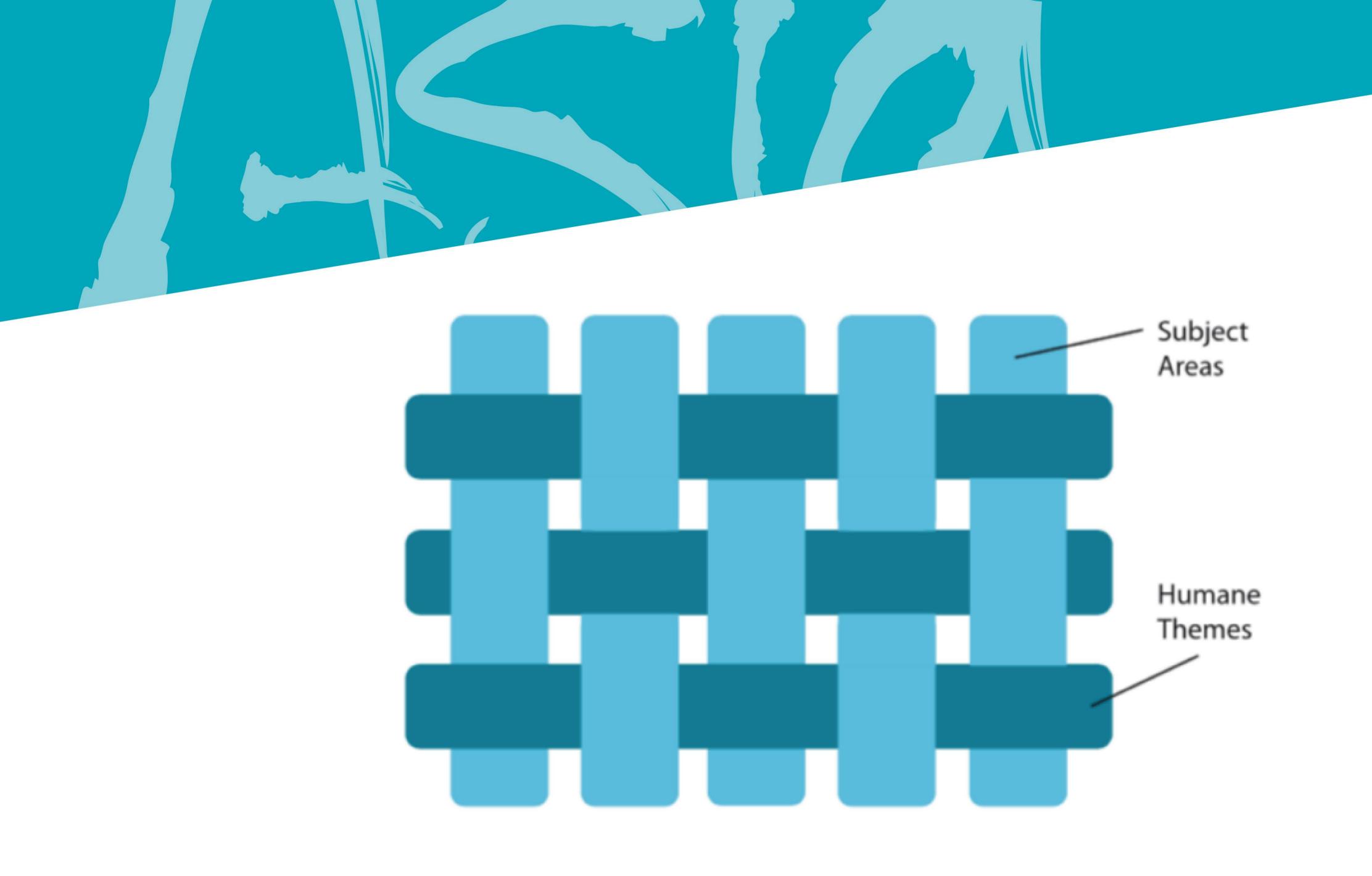




Subject Areas

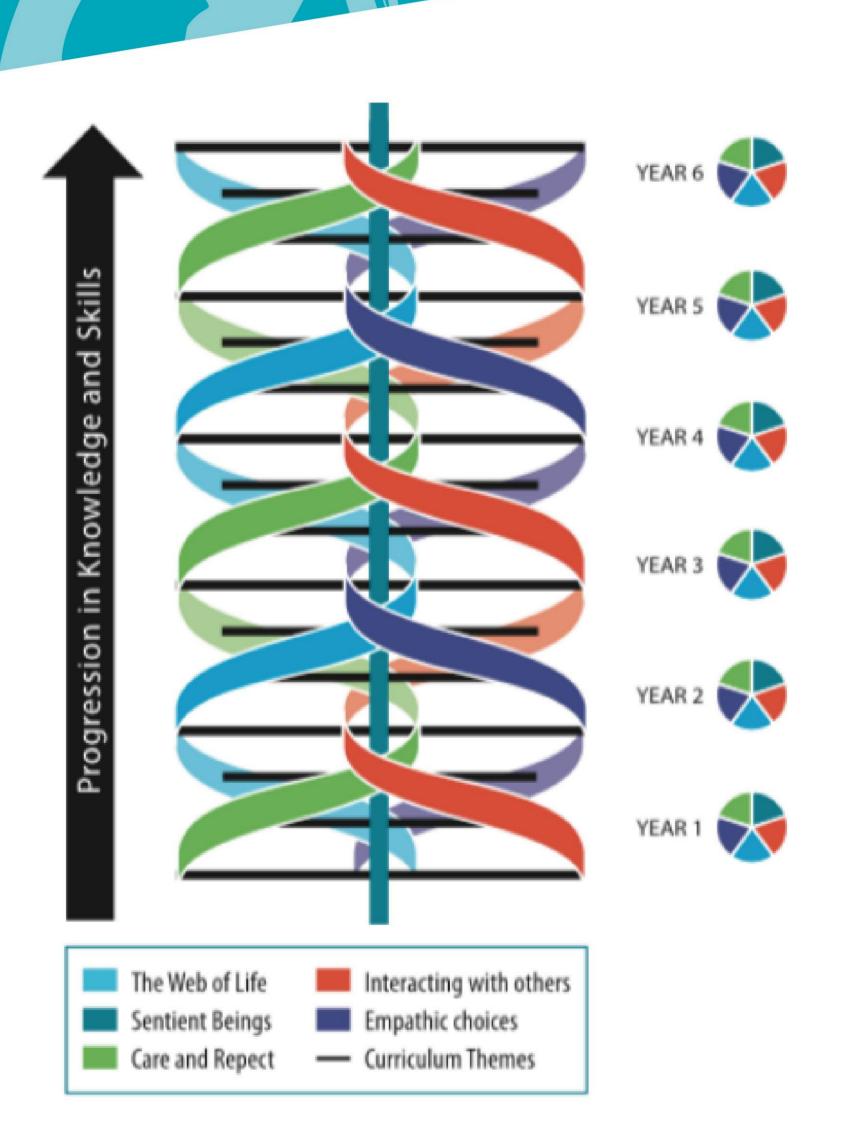








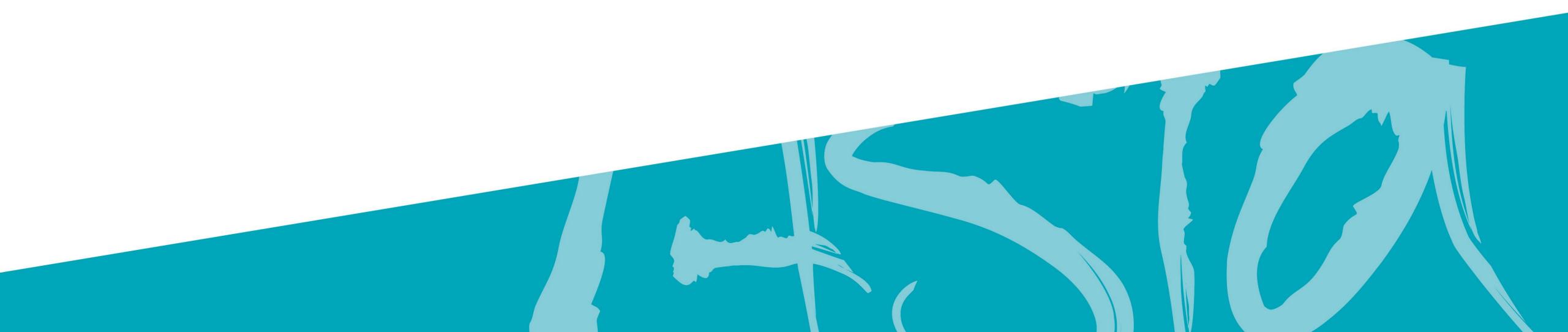
Conceptual Overview of Curriculum







How we educate in china







CFL was introduced in China in 2012, where it supports mandatory moral education in primary schools & kindergartens.

Guiding Principles

- Interactions
- Inquiry
- Collaboration & group work
- Promotion of virtues
- Flexibility
- Local focus, outward looking
- Student centered & CFL educators as a role Model
- Advanced Pedagogy





Teaching children **HOW** to think, not **WHAT** to think





CFL Educators — who they are

- Ideal School Teachers
- Alternative
 - *university students
 - *Parent Power helping to influence family units and the wider society.













Step 1: Online training with video tutorials (total 2.5 hours) on CCTALK platform,"

Step 2: Offline 1-day training workshops

Hands-on activities are included





CFL China Conference

- First time hosted in 2018
- Biennial event
- Bring CFL educators and school managing authorities together





Our achievements: 2012 - 2019

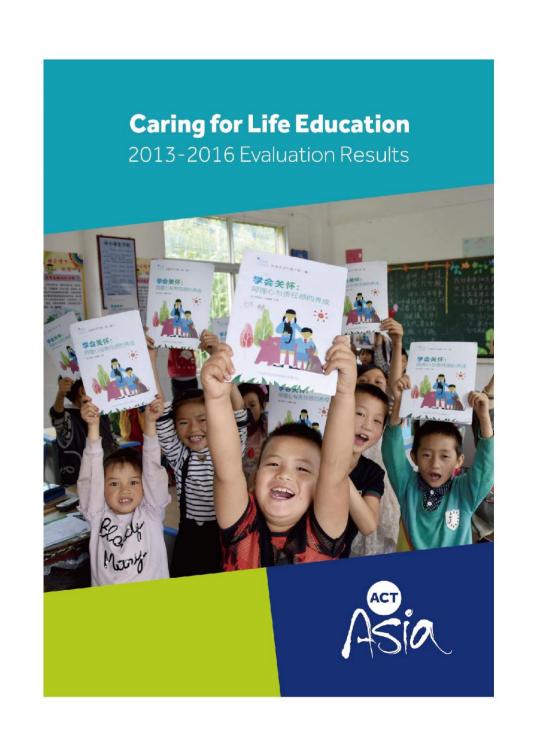
- *Reached more than 78,000 children in China through 140 schools,
- In 15 pilot schools & 8 kindergartens CFL is taught every academic year.
- Trained over 2,200 CFL educators nationwide.
- CFL has won numerous awards in China.





CFL Evaluation

- William E. Samuels (Ph.D. of the City University of New York)
- A 3-year evaluation (2014-2016) with experimental & control group
- Study result published in an academic journal with anecdotal evidence indicates CFL's potential in developing pro-social behaviour





How is this all relevant to China's left-behind children







The Overwhelming Numbers

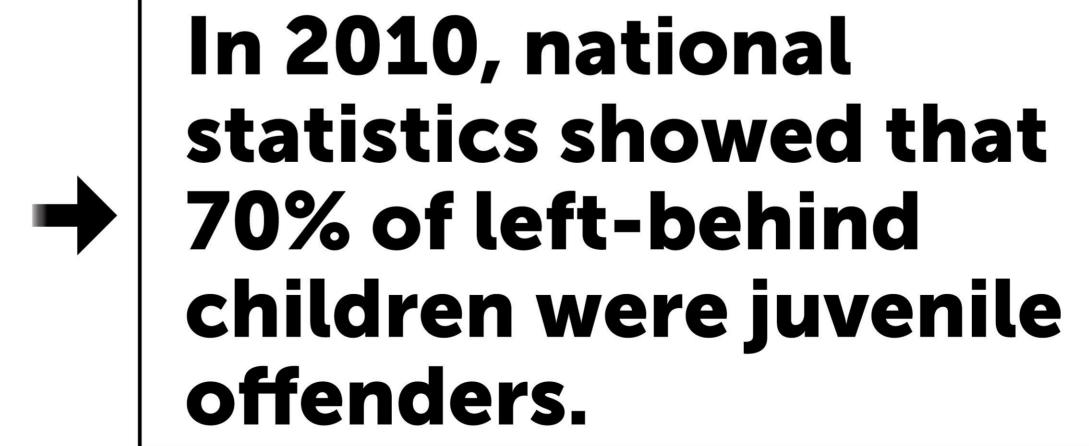
- 61 million (40% under the age of 5)
- 10million don't see parents for more than 1year
- 2 million are left alone
- Raised by grandparents (33%), relatives or villagers (11%)







- Receive little or no education
- Isolation
- No role models





Another milestone in 2019

- Online CFL teaching for children in rural areas by collaborating with a Chinese
- Rural Education Network Each CFL lesson can reach over **30,000** children in **1300**+ classes throughout rural part of China.



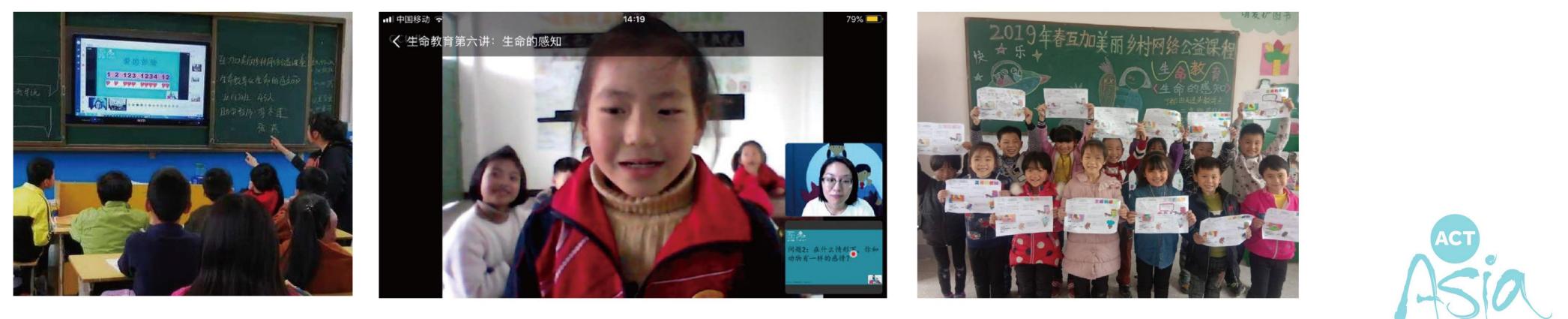




Utilising the technology to reach left behind children











CFL in USA



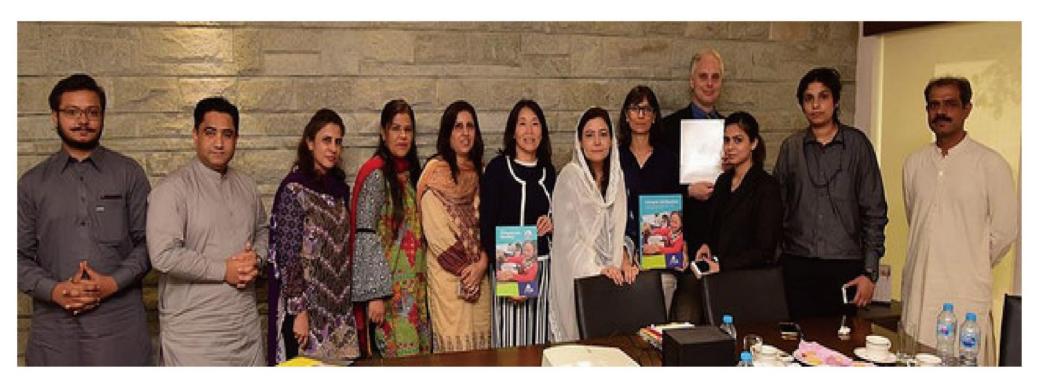








CFL in Pakistan

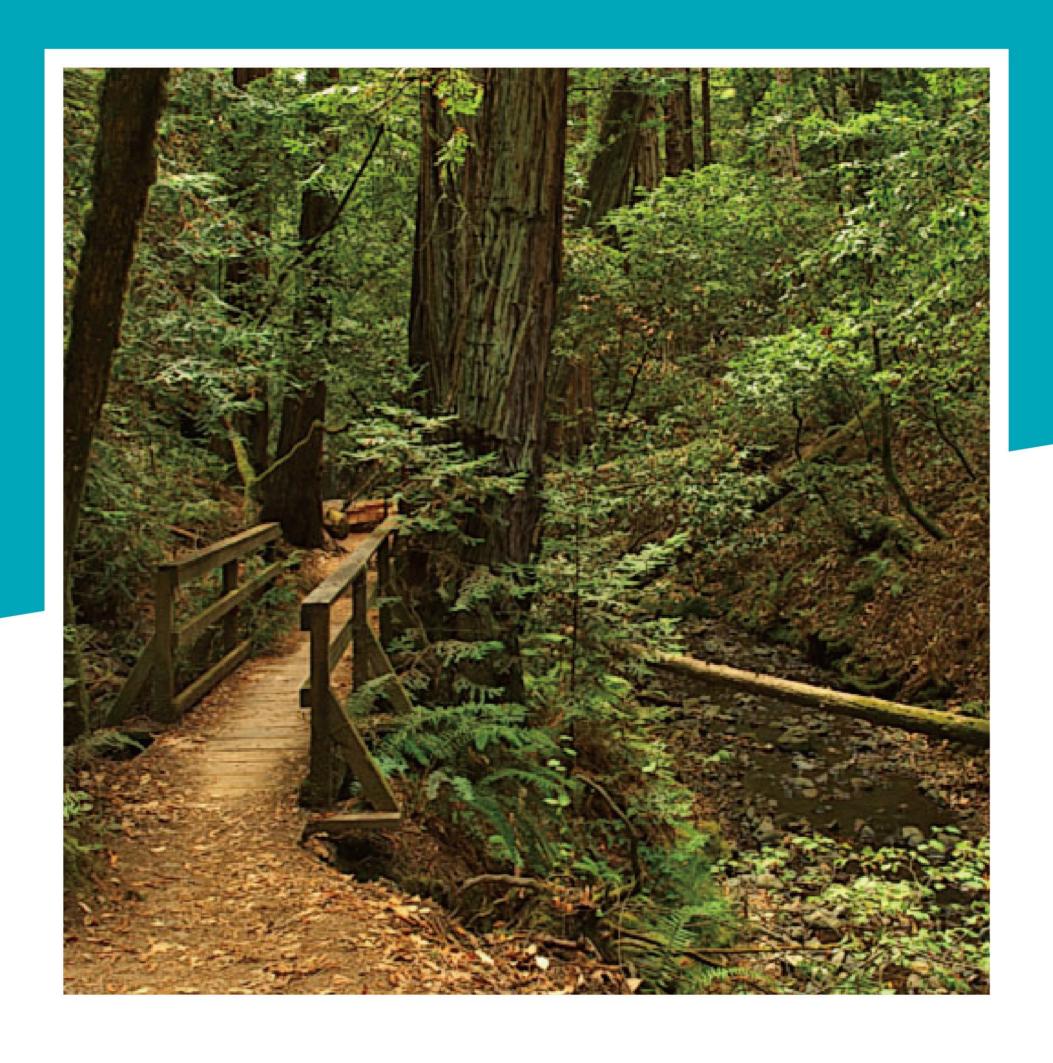




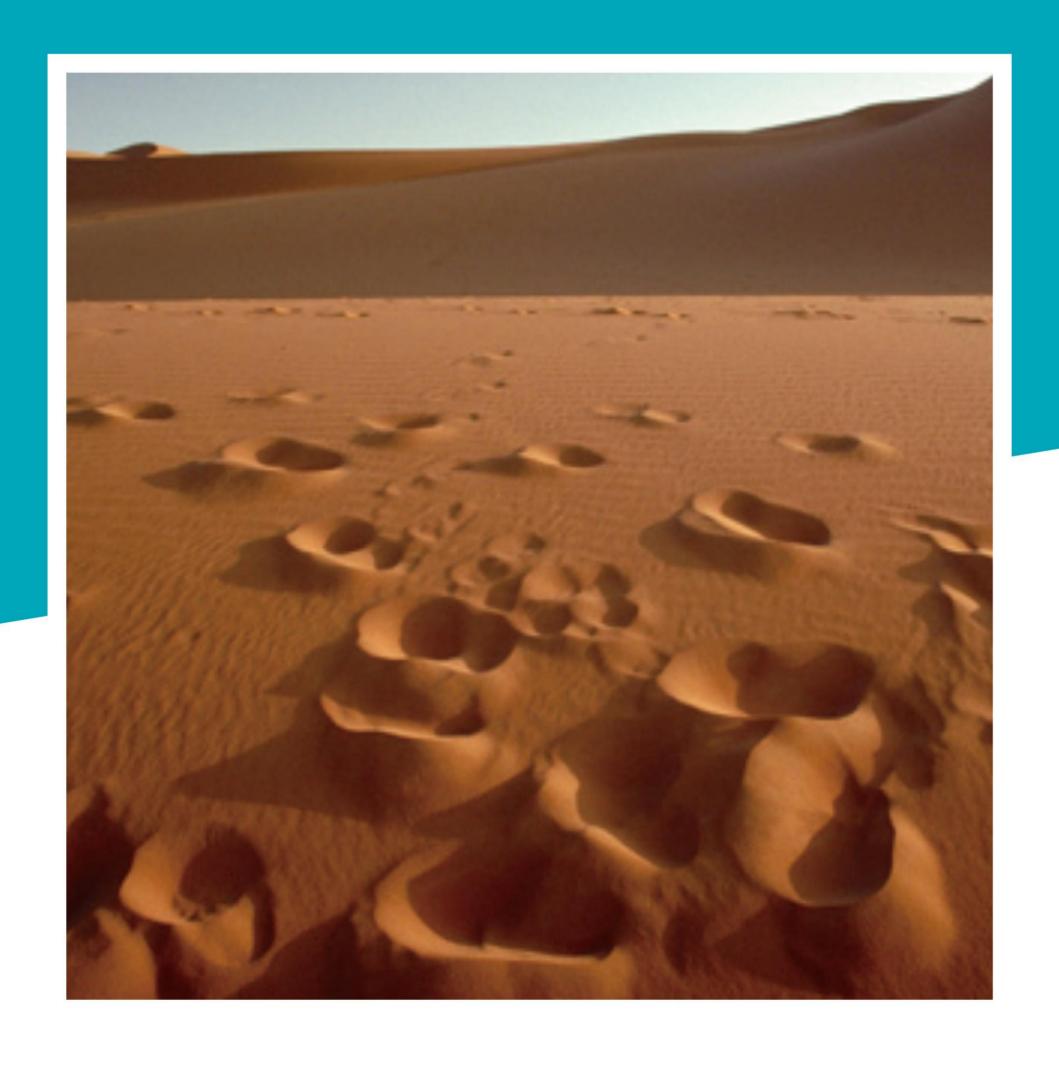
Challenges

- Political and social context
- The uniqueness of China
- Different teaching and learning methods
- The size of country
- Unpredictable
- Limited budget and resources



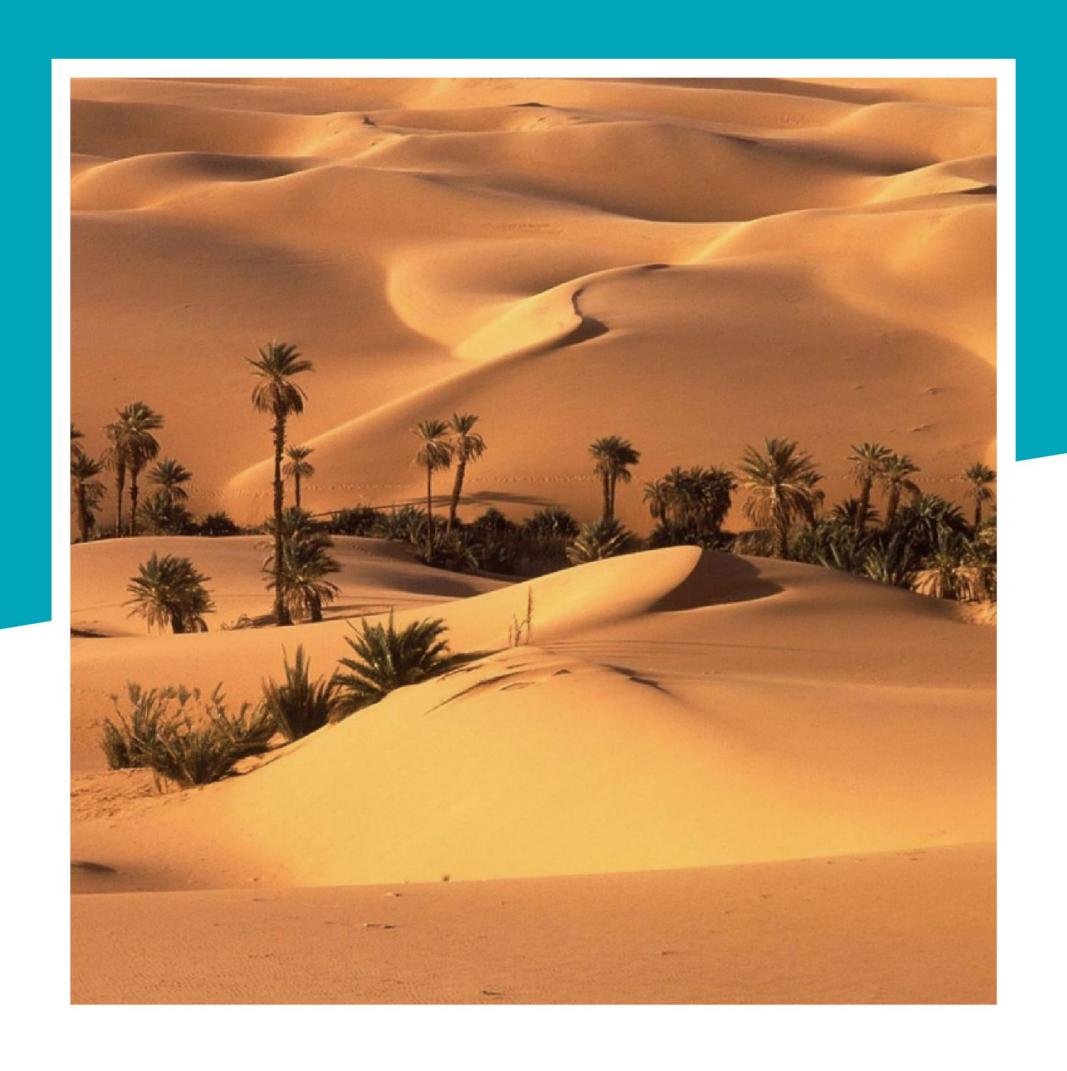


12 years ago my view of humane education in US



12 years ago my view of humane education in China







Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.

— Nelson Mandela



