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普及湾大学二年级

我的元阳旅行

2011 的暑假我跟 PEACH Foundation 去了中国。PEACH Foundation 是美国的一个义工团体，组织义工去中国比较穷困的地方教英文。每年 PEACH 去两个地方，元阳和丽江，都在中国的云南省。

我和我爸爸参加过 PEACH 在元阳的英文课。我们先从旧金山飞到昆明，然后再加入义工团。我们先在昆明住了两天，然后去西安参观了一下，再准备去元阳。离开的那天我们很早就起来坐公共汽车去。我们坐了六个小时以后才到了。元阳是一个山上的小镇，只有一个饭店和一个学校。元阳的学校坐在山的最高处。在路上有很多小的商店。可是所有来上英文课的中国学生都住在元阳外面的村庄。有的学生从近的村庄来的，有的孩子从很远的农村过来。我跟一些别的小老师教这些学生英文，暑期班一共两个星期。

每天早上我跟有早课的一些老师爬十分钟山，然后去教课。因为我起床起得很早所以我不吃早饭。有一天我刚刚到了学校，还没有到我的教室，有一些学生觉得我可能没有早饭。他们只有一个鸡蛋，可是他们看到我沒有早饭，他们就要给我他们的鸡蛋。所有的学生都非常穷，一年他们的家只有 1000-1500 块钱人民币的收入，每天只吃学校的晚饭。我知道他们吃不到很多，所以我说我不要他们的饭。他们坚持要我吃，直到我把鸡蛋拿了，他们才离开。这个经验让我很感动。

去元阳以后我看到很多了从未见过的东西。比方说第一天我跟别的小老师去看我们学生住的农村。所有的东西都很破旧和落后。所有的房子都是用泥巴和树枝做的，也有很多动物走在路上。每个房子只有一个小灯。看到这些我真的很珍惜我现在的的生活。

另一个有趣的经历是 PEACH foundation 为我们和我们的学生在我们的旅馆的餐厅准备了一顿晚饭。我的学生告诉我他们以前从没去过餐厅，别的老师告诉我这个晚饭对他们来说很特别，因为这些学生很少能吃那么多肉。即使他们常常吃不到很多东西，那天他们还都等我先吃，而且他们总是让我多吃。他们一边吃一边给我很多饭。我也听说这些学生从没见过厕所和电梯，所以我们吃完了以后我带他们去看厕所和坐电梯。很多的学生怕电梯。

我觉得这个经验很特别。我越教我的学生越爱他们。不论我的学生有没有钱，他们都学得很努力。如果我有时间我一定会回去元阳。

In the summer of 2011 I went with PEACH Foundation to China. PEACH Foundation is an American volunteer organization that organizes volunteers to go to relatively poor places to teach English. Every year PEACH goes to two locations, YuanYang and LiJiang, both are in Chinas Yunnan Province.

My dad and I attended PEACH at YuanYang. We first flew from San Francisco to KunMing, then we joined the main group. We stayed in KunMing for two days, we toured a bit, then we prepared to go to YuanYang. On the day we left for YuanYang we got up very early to get on the bus. We rode the bus for 6

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hours to get there. YuanYang is a small town on a mountain. It only has one hotel and one school. YuanYang's school is on the mountain highest point. On the street are lots of small shops. All of the students attending the English classes were from vilages outside YuanYang. Some students were from close villeges some came from very far. Some other young teachers and I taught them English for two weeks.

Every morning the other teachers and I walked up the mountain for ten minutes to get to school. Since I had to wake so early I skipped breakfast. There was a day were I had just arrived at school, I hadn't even made it to my classroom yet. There were some students who saw I had no breakfast. They only had a single egg for breakfast, but when they saw I had no breakfast they wanted to give me their egg. All the students were very poor, their families made about 1000-1500 RMB a year. Everyday they only ate the school provided dinner. I knew they didn't eat enough so I refused the egg. They insisted I took the egg and wouldn't leave until I had. This experience was very moving.

Going to YuanYang I saw things I normally wouldn't have seen. For example, one day some teachers and I went to see the villeges some of our students were from. Everything in these villeges was very rundown. All the houses were made of sticks and dirt, and there were animals walking all along the streets. Every house only had one small light. Seeing this made me appreciate everything that I had.

Another interesting experience I had was when PEACH foundation held a dinner for the teachers and their students in our hotel restaurant. My students told me that they had never been to a restaurant before, other teachers told me that this dinner was very special, because these students don't eat enough meat. Even though the often don't eat enough, they still waited for me to eat first, they even made me eat more. They ate and gave me more food. I had also heard that they had never seen a toilet or elevator before, so after we finished eating I brought them to my hotel to see a toilet and elevator. A lot of them were afraid to ride the elevator.

I feel that this trip was very special. The more I taught my students the more I loved them. Even though they had no more they all studied very hard. If I had time I would definitely go back to YuanYang.

Vocabulary List:

义工 – Yi Gōng - Volunteer
团体 – Tuán Tǐ – Organization
组织 – Zǔ Zhī – To Organize
穷困 – Qióng Kùn – Destitute
加入 – Jiā Rù – To Join
团 – Tuán – Group
离开 – Lí Kāi – To Leave
镇 – Zhèn – Small Town
高处 – Gāo Chù – High Place
村庄 – Cūn Zhuāng – Village
农村 – Nóng Cūn – Village/Rural Area
穷 – Qióng – Poor
收入 – Shōu Rù – Income
坚持 – Jiān Chí – Insist
经验 – Jīng Yàn – Experience
感动 – Gǎn Dòng – Moving/Touching
破旧 – Pò Jiù – Shabby
落后 – Luò Hòu – Backwards
泥巴 – Ní Bā – Dirt
珍惜 – Zhēn Xi – To Value

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电梯 – Diàn Tī – Elevator
努力 – Nǚ Lì – To Strive