

Dragon Boat Festival

ESL Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com



The Dragon Boat Festival is a fun holiday in Taiwan. It happens in May or June. People race long boats shaped like **dragons**. The boats have a dragon head on the front.

Teams of **rowers** sit in the boat. They use paddles to push the boat through the water. One person hits a **drum** to keep everyone together. The boats go very fast across the river.

People eat special food called zongzi. These are sticky rice balls wrapped in **leaves**. Inside the rice, there is meat or beans. They taste **delicious** and are fun to unwrap.

This holiday **remembers** a man named Qu Yuan. He was a good and **honest** person long ago. He jumped into a river, and people tried to save him. The boat races remember this story.

The Dragon Boat Festival is very **exciting**. Many people watch the races. They cheer for their **favorite** team. It is a great time to be with family and friends!

A. Vocabulary

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|--------------------|--|
| 1. dragons _____ | a. big magical animals that look like snakes |
| 2. rowers _____ | b. the one you like the most |
| 3. drum _____ | c. fun and makes you happy |
| 4. leaves _____ | d. very good to eat |
| 5. delicious _____ | e. people who paddle a boat |
| 6. remembers _____ | f. always telling the truth |
| 7. honest _____ | g. thinks about the past |
| 8. exciting _____ | h. green flat parts of a plant |
| 9. favorite _____ | i. a big celebration or party |
| 10. festival _____ | j. a round thing you hit to make sound |

B. True or False

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|---|---|--|
| 1. Dragon boats look like snakes. _____ | 2. The festival is in May or June. _____ | 3. Teams use paddles to move the boat. _____ |
| 4. A drum helps keep everyone together. _____ | 5. Zongzi is made with bread. _____ | 6. Qu Yuan was a bad person. _____ |
| 7. The festival is about Qu Yuan. _____ | 8. Only a few people watch the races. _____ | 9. Zongzi is wrapped in leaves. _____ |

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: dragons, rowers, drum, leaves, delicious, honest, exciting

- The boats are shaped like _____ with a dragon head.
- Teams of _____ sit in the boat and paddle.
- One person hits a _____ to keep everyone together.
- Zongzi is wrapped in _____.
- The Dragon Boat Festival is very _____.

D. Comprehension Questions

- When is the Dragon Boat Festival?
- What do dragon boats look like?
- What is zongzi?
- Who was Qu Yuan?
- What does the person with the drum do?

E. Discussion Questions

- Would you like to be on a dragon boat team? Why?
- Have you ever tried zongzi? What did you think?
- What holidays do you celebrate with your family?

Answer Key

A. Vocabulary: 1-a, 2-e, 3-j, 4-h, 5-d, 6-g, 7-f, 8-c, 9-b, 10-i

B. True/False: 1-F, 2-T, 3-T, 4-T, 5-F, 6-F, 7-T, 8-F, 9-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-dragons, 2-rowers, 3-drum, 4-leaves, 5-exciting

D. Comprehension: 1. May or June; 2. Like dragons with a dragon head on front; 3. Sticky rice wrapped in leaves with meat or beans; 4. A good and honest man from long ago; 5. Keeps everyone rowing together