

FESTIVALS AROUND THE WORLD

HONG KONG



DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL

Watch a short video on how the Dragon Boat Festival is celebrated in Hong Kong and take part in activities from that culture.

COUNTRY QUIZ TIME

Q1. True or false: Dim sum originated from Southern China?

True. Dim sum is small bite-sized snacks offered to travellers who journey through the Silk Road.

Q2. True or false: HK has the most sky scrapers in the world?

True. HK has 7687 high-rise buildings and 303 skyscrapers. Yet $\frac{3}{4}$ of the landmass is countryside; sandy beaches, mountain ranges and grasslands.

Q3. True or false: HK has the world's shortest escalator?

False. HK has the world's longest escalator which covers 800m in distance and elevates 135m. It has 14 entrances and exits, takes 20-25mins to ride. About 85,000 people use it daily.

Q4. True or false: Buildings in Hong Kong do not have a 4th floor?

Buildings in HK lack a floor number with 4 as it bad luck. The word for the number four is similar to 'die'.

Q5. True or false: Hong Kong is known by how it smells?

True. HK's name is Cantonese for 'fragrant harbour' due to the smell of incense factories that lined the coast of Pearl River.

ACTIVITY TIME:

One: Colour in a picture of the Dragon Boat Festival.

<https://www.misspandachinese.com/dragon-boat-festival-duan-wu-jie-%E7%AB%AF%E5%8D%88%E7%AF%80-coloring-pages/>

Two: Build a boat and have a competition! <https://etspeaksfromhome.co.uk/2019/12/build-your-own-dragon-boat-race-game-ad.html>

Three: Cook some delicious sticky rice dumplings. <https://thewoksoflife.com/lazy-sticky-rice-dumpling-shortcut-zongzi/>

VIDEO EXPLAINING DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL IN HONG KONG

When is it celebrated?

The Dragon Boat Festival is a traditional cultural celebration in HK and China during June each year. It started 2,000 years ago.

Why is it celebrated?

It originated from the legend that the people paddled out on their boats to save a patriotic poet and statesman called Qu Yuan who drowned himself when his country was invaded. The people beat their drums, splashed their oars and threw rice into the water so that the fish would not eat his body as they tried to find him.

How is it celebrated?

Today, the people host the boat race and traditional rice dumplings (Zongzi) filled with different fillings are eaten as part of a memorial to him.

What happens at the festival?

Today, the boat race is the most important activity at the event and it held across the world by Chinese people. People eat sticky rice dumplings that is filled with meat, beans and other fillings. It is wrapped in triangle or rectangular shapes in bamboo or reed leaves and tied with stalks or silk. Before the festival parents will prepare perfume pouches for their children, filling silk pouches with perfumes or herbal medicines. It is said to protect them from evil. Drinking realgar wine to improve health. In ancient times, people believed the wine was an antidote for poisons as well as killing insects.



PRAYER TIME:

1. People: Give thanks to God for the people of Hong Kong, whom he made and loves. Pray that we can love them too.
2. Children: Pray for the children of Hong Kong, that they will get to know the love of Jesus as they grow up.
3. Place: Pray for believers in Hong Kong to confidently share about God's protection to their family and friends during this festival.

