



Dragon Boat Racing

Reading Worksheet — Level C | tahricteaches.com

Dragon Boat Racing is a fun and exciting **sport** from China. People have raced dragon boats for more than 2,000 years. Today, many countries around the world hold dragon boat races. The boats are long and narrow, and they look like big dragons with colorful heads and tails.

Each boat has a **team** of about 20 people. Most of them sit in two rows and paddle the boat together. One person stands at the front and beats a big drum. The drum helps the paddlers move at the same speed. Another person stands at the back and steers the boat.

The races usually happen on a river or a lake. The boats line up at the start, and a loud horn tells them to go. The teams paddle as fast as they can. The first boat to cross the finish line is the **winner**. The races are often short, but very exciting to watch.

In Taiwan, China, and other Asian countries, people race dragon boats during the Dragon Boat **Festival**. This special day happens in early summer. Families also eat sticky rice dumplings called zongzi on this day.

Dragon boat racing is now popular in many places. Schools, clubs, and companies have their own teams. It is a great way to make friends, get **strong**, and enjoy life on the water.

A. Vocabulary

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 1. sport ____ | a. having power in your body; not weak |
| 2. team ____ | b. person or team that wins a game or race |
| 3. narrow ____ | c. special day or time when people celebrate |
| 4. paddle ____ | d. not wide; small from one side to the other |
| 5. drum ____ | e. round musical instrument you hit to make a sound |
| 6. steer ____ | f. making you feel happy and full of energy |
| 7. winner ____ | g. game or activity that needs physical effort and skill |
| 8. festival ____ | h. group of people who work or play together |
| 9. strong ____ | i. push a boat through water using a flat stick |
| 10. exciting ____ | j. control which way something moves |

B. True or False

- | | |
|--|--|
| ____ 1. Dragon boat racing started in China. | ____ 2. People have raced dragon boats for only 100 years. |
| ____ 3. Dragon boats are short and wide. | ____ 4. Each boat has about 20 people on the team. |

- ___ 5. One person at the front beats a drum.
- ___ 6. The drum helps the paddlers move at the same speed.
- ___ 7. Dragon boat races usually happen in the ocean.
- ___ 8. The first boat to cross the finish line is the winner.
- ___ 9. The Dragon Boat Festival happens in winter.
- ___ 10. People eat sticky rice dumplings called zongzi on this day.

C. Fill in the Blanks

Word Bank: sport, team, drum, winner, festival, narrow, paddle, exciting

1. Dragon boat racing is a fun _____ from China.
2. Each boat has a _____ of about 20 people.
3. One person beats a big _____ at the front of the boat.
4. The first boat to cross the finish line is the _____.
5. People race dragon boats during the Dragon Boat _____.



D. Comprehension Questions

1. How many people are on a dragon boat team?
2. What does the person at the front of the boat do?
3. What food do people eat during the Dragon Boat Festival?

E. Discussion Questions

1. Would you like to be on a dragon boat team? Why or why not?
2. What festivals do you celebrate in your country, and what do you eat on those days?



Answer Key

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

B. True/False: 1-T, 2-F, 3-F, 4-T, 5-T, 6-T, 7-F, 8-T, 9-F, 10-T

C. Fill Blanks: 1-sport, 2-team, 3-drum, 4-winner, 5-festival

D. Comprehension:

1. There are about 20 people on each dragon boat team.
2. The person at the front beats a big drum to help the paddlers move at the same speed.
3. People eat sticky rice dumplings called zongzi during the Dragon Boat Festival.

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