

家乡端午：香气与团结

端午节一到，家乡的街道就变得热闹非凡。家家户户门前挂上艾草，窗台上放着菖蒲，空气中弥漫着粽叶的香气。端午节的来历我们从小就耳熟能详：这是为了纪念伟大的诗人屈原，他忠诚爱国，却因不被理解而投江自尽。为了不让江中的鱼虾伤害他，人们便投入粽子以祭祀他。这一传统从古至今流传下来，成为端午节不可或缺的习俗。

我最喜欢的端午节活动就是包粽子。每年的节日前夕，妈妈总会把糯米、红枣、豆沙、粽叶和绳子准备齐全。全家人围坐在大圆桌旁，我和弟弟总是最忙碌的“小帮手”。妈妈先教我们把粽叶洗净晾干，然后示范如何把糯米和馅料包入其中，再折叠成三角形，用绳子系紧。虽然我们包得笨手笨脚，米粒经常掉出来，但在家人的鼓励下，我慢慢学会了技巧。看到蒸好的粽子一个个整齐饱满，我的心里总是满满的成就感。

赛龙舟是节日的高潮。比赛当天，河岸两边人山人海，欢呼声此起彼伏。龙舟在水中飞驰，划手们挥动桨，齐心协力，水花溅起，仿佛河面上腾起一条条奋力向前的巨龙。我和朋友们站在岸边为每一条龙舟加油，掌声、呐喊声混合在一起，形成节日独特的热闹气氛。看着划手们奋力拼搏，我能感受到家乡人坚韧团结的精神。

挂艾草、菖蒲也是端午节的一部分。家乡人相信，这样可以驱邪保平安。每当我看到门前那一束束翠绿的艾草，我就会想到爷爷说过的话：“端午节，不仅是吃粽子、赛龙舟，更重要的是传承文化，让家人平安健康。”这些风俗把节日的意义延续到了我们生活的每一天。

家乡的端午节，包粽子的温馨、龙舟赛的激烈、艾草的清香，构成了一个充满传统文化和亲情的节日。每年的端午节，我都会从这些风俗中感受到家的温暖，也感受到传统文化的延续和家乡人团结友爱的精神。这些记忆不仅温暖了我的童年，也深深地植入了我的心中，成为我对家乡最深的眷恋。

Dragon Boat Festival in My Hometown: Fragrance and Unity

When the Dragon Boat Festival arrives, the streets of my hometown become bustling with activity. Every household hangs mugwort at the door and calamus on the windowsill, while the air is filled with the fragrance of rice leaves. The origin of the festival is well-known to us from childhood: it commemorates the great poet Qu Yuan, who loved his country but drowned himself when misunderstood. To prevent fish and shrimp from harming him, people threw rice dumplings into the river. This tradition has been passed down through generations, becoming an essential custom of the Dragon Boat Festival.

My favorite activity is making zongzi. On the eve of the festival, my mother prepares glutinous rice, red dates, sweet bean paste, bamboo leaves, and string. Our whole family sits around the big round table, and my younger brother and I are the busiest “little helpers.” Mom first teaches us to wash and dry the leaves, then demonstrates how to wrap the rice and fillings, fold into triangles, and tie with

string. Though clumsy at first, and grains of rice often falling out, I gradually learn the technique with encouragement. Seeing the steamed zongzi neatly plump fills me with pride and accomplishment.

The dragon boat race is the highlight of the festival. On race day, the riverbanks are crowded, and cheers rise continuously. Dragon boats race across the water as rowers paddle in unison, splashing water, like dragons straining forward. My friends and I stand by the river cheering for each boat, with applause and shouts blending into a lively festival atmosphere. Watching the rowers' efforts, I deeply feel the spirit of unity and resilience in my hometown.

Hanging mugwort and calamus is also part of the festival. People believe it wards off evil and brings peace. Every time I see the green bundles at the doors, I remember my grandfather's words: "The Dragon Boat Festival isn't just about eating zongzi and racing boats; it's about preserving culture and ensuring the health and safety of the family." These customs extend the meaning of the festival into everyday life.

The Dragon Boat Festival in my hometown, with the warmth of making zongzi, the excitement of dragon boat races, and the fragrance of mugwort, forms a festival full of traditional culture and familial love. Every year, I feel the warmth of home, the continuation of cultural traditions, and the unity of my fellow townspeople. These memories not only warm my childhood but also deeply root my affection for my hometown.