

## Sharing by award-winning students

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I have participated in Dragon Boat Festival activities myself. The Dragon Boat Festival, celebrated in China, involves racing dragon boats and making zongzi, which are sticky rice dumplings wrapped in bamboo leaves. Fragrant sachets filled with herbs and spices are worn to ward off evil spirits and diseases. Similarly, in India, aromatic sachets are used during festivals like Diwali to infuse spaces with pleasant scents and auspicious energy, symbolizing the drive to ward off negativity and attract prosperity. These sachets often contain materials like sandalwood, camphor, and various spices, reflecting a shared cultural emphasis on the protective and purifying properties of fragrances.

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When I was a child, a teacher showed us how to make fragrant sachets, and we each got to decorate our own. Every year at the Dragon Boat Festival, my family also makes our own zongzi (rice dumplings) to eat. There is always a dragon boat competition in the Love River in Kaohsiung. Our family watches the news about the dragon boat races while eating our homemade zongzi. The downside is that we end up eating zongzi for several days after the festival.