

## Winter Solstice: Dongzhi Festival

Dongzhi is a special winter festival in China. It happens in December on the shortest day of the year. Families celebrate that winter is halfway over. They come together to eat, talk, and enjoy warm food.

A popular food for Dongzhi is called **tangyuan**. Tangyuan are small rice balls. They are soft and sweet. Families cook tangyuan in warm soup. Eating tangyuan brings families closer and reminds them of love and togetherness.

The Dongzhi Festival is also about good luck. Many families decorate their homes. They use red lanterns because red is a lucky color. Red lanterns make the house look bright and happy.

Dongzhi is a time to enjoy family. People feel hopeful that spring will come soon. Families eat, decorate, and spend time together to celebrate this special day.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Comprehension Questions

1. **When does the Dongzhi Festival happen?**
  - a) At the start of summer
  - b) During the spring season
  - c) On the shortest day of the year
  - d) On the longest day of the year
  
2. **What do families do to celebrate Dongzhi?**
  - a) Build snowmen
  - b) Play games outside
  - c) Eat together and decorate their homes
  - d) Light fireworks
  
3. **What does eating tangyuan remind families of?**
  - a) Love and togetherness
  - b) Spring and flowers
  - c) The summer sun
  - d) Good luck for the year
  
4. **Why is red an important color during Dongzhi?**
  - a) It is the color of winter
  - b) It brings good luck
  - c) It tastes sweet like tangyuan
  - d) It makes people sleepy

**Discussion:** What does Dongzhi have in common with other Winter Solstice celebrations?

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### Vocabulary Question

5. **What does the word “togetherness” mean in this passage?**
  - a) Being sad alone
  - b) Spending time with family
  - c) Cooking food alone
  - d) Decorating a room