

## The Lantern Festival

*By Wang Sisi from BE0816*

The 15th day of the 1st lunar month is the Chinese Lantern Festival, which is one of the most important festivals in China.

On that day, all families get together to celebrate. And there are many activities, such as eating Tang Yuan, watching lanterns and setting off fireworks.

This year's Lantern Festival, my mother said she will make Tang Yuan by herself. I was very excited for hearing that, because I have wanted to learn for a long time, and this is a good opportunity. Mom was skillful to make Tang Yuan. She first shaped the dough of rice flour into balls, making a hole, then inserted the filling, finally closed the hole and smoothed out the dumpling by rolling it between her hands. My Mom told me the round shape symbolizes wholeness and unity. By the tutelage of my Mom I also made many Tang Yuan myself. There was a strong sense of accomplishment for me!



After eating Tangyuan, I went to People's Square to watch lanterns with my friends. The Square was full of people. Lanterns of various shapes and colors hung in the streets, attracting countless visitors. Many children held lanterns to stroll out on the streets, extremely excited. On the square, the most popular game is "Guessing lantern riddles." It is an essential part of the Festival. Lantern owners wrote riddles on a piece of paper and posted them on the lanterns. If visitors have solutions to the riddles, they can pull the paper out and go to the lantern owners to check their answer. If they are right, they will get a little gift.

Apart from lanterns, the imposing fireworks are beautiful scenery. In addition to the bright moon, the whole square looked like a grand picture. Just like anyone here, my friend and I got lost in this joyful atmosphere!