

# TẾT TRUNG THU

## WHAT IS TẾT TRUNG THU?

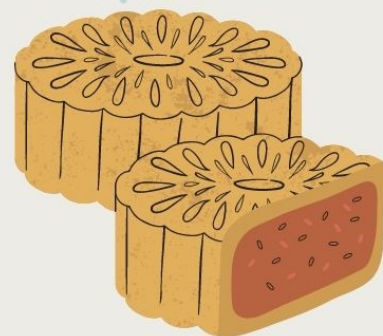
Tết Trung Thu is also known as the Mid-Autumn Moon Festival. It was originally a yearly festival to give thanks to the moon for a successful harvest season since the full moon represents the fullness and prosperity of life.

During this festival, families spent time with each other and other loved ones after being hard at work during the harvest season. What are ways you and your family celebrate Tết Trung Thu?

## TẾT TRUNG THU TRADITIONS

**Mooncakes:** Mooncakes are traditionally prepared or bought and given to loved ones.

Mooncakes can be sweet and filled with mung beans with a salted egg yolk, or savory with a pork and sausage filling.



**Dances:** Lion dances are a well-loved tradition of Tết Trung Thu. Groups of performers would go house to house and perform to receive "lucky money."

Dragon dances would be performed to show appreciation for the Dragon that brought water to the harvest.





**Lanterns:** Probably the most well-known tradition of Tết Trung Thu are the paper lanterns. These paper lanterns are either bought or made and can come in different shapes and sizes.

At night, under the moon, children would gather and parade in the streets while singing and carrying their lighted lanterns. You can make your own paper lantern using the instructions below!

## HOW TO MAKE PAPER LANTERNS

### What you need:

- Colored paper
- Pencil and eraser
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Tape or stapler

### Step 1:

Measure and cut a 1" strip from the long edge of the paper. This will be used as the handle for your lantern.

### Step 2:

Fold the paper in half lengthwise. Mark a line across the length of the paper 1/2" from the open edge.

### Step 3:

Measure and cut strips from the folded edge towards the open edge. Be careful not to cut past the line from step 2.

### Step 4:

Unfold the paper and loop the paper around to form a tube. Tape or staple the ends together.

### Step 5:

Tape or staple the handle from step 1 and you're done!

