

READING

Complete the paragraphs about different festivals With present simple or present continuous.

Vancouver Island's Pacific Rim Whale Festival



In British Columbia, people _____ - (have) festivals that celebrate the things that make their hometown special. Every year, about 20,000 grey whales _____ (swim) past the west coast of Vancouver Island. The whales _____ (travel) from Mexico to the Arctic and back again. The whole trip is about 16,000 kilometres. Every March, the people who _____ (live) around the Pacific Rim National Park have a festival to celebrate the whales' journey. The festival is the Pacific Rim Whale Festival. The whales travel very close to the shore as they swim north. This _____ (allow) people to gather together to watch the whales from land and from boats.

Nanaimo's Bathtub Race



On the east coast of Vancouver Island, you can see people moving through the water in a strange type of boat. During the Nanaimo Bathtub Race, people _____ (have)

a big race in boats made from bathtubs! The city of Nanaimo is home to the oldest and most famous bathtub boat race in the world. The race started as a silly event in 1967. Today, Nanaimo's World Championship Bathtub Race _____ (be) a serious sport that _____ (bring) racers and visitors from around the world.

Vancouver's Dragon Boat Festival



Vancouver is home to another famous festival on the water. This is the Dragon Boat Festival. The festival _____ (begin) with a ceremony. The ceremony wakes up the dragon and

_____ (give) the people and boats the dragon's strength. Each boat has a dragon's head on the front and a tail on the back. The boat _____ (hold) a team of about 20 people. The people in the boats paddle to the beat of a drummer. The drummer _____ (sit) at the front of the dragon boat.