

THIS IS WHAT WE EAT AT HOME

ZAY LINN HTET, 11

Scan here to hear the audio recording
of our participants!



Zay: Hi, I am Zay and I am 11 years old. I live in Boon Lay and I like to dance. My dream is to become a professional dancer one day.

My mum cooked two dishes, one with spicy fish and onion sauce. It was like very spicy. She always likes to cook that. I saw my father always eat dried chilli paste, then I tried it myself and I somehow liked it. And then my mum put in more and more dried chilli and I started eating the whole plate of them.

I've stayed in different countries before: my hometown, which is Myanmar, and Thailand. When I first grew up in Singapore and in my first kindergarten school, my friends were like "Hi, where are you from?" and I said Singapore. And then they were like "I thought you are (from) Myanmar?" so then I was like... yeah and then they... kinda made fun of my culture. So then I got a

little bit insecure about my culture. I told my mother about it and my mother said, "don't let anybody ruin your culture because they have their own culture too."

Shiyun: When we first opened TTKC, Shally* came here, (and) she wrote her full name (on the wall). Then I said, "Where are you from?" Then she said "Oh, I'm from Myanmar but my mum say we shouldn't tell people that."

Zay: Sometimes she doesn't want to embarrass herself and her family because people... some people, they haven't seen Myanmar people come in(to) the country, Singapore. After the project, I felt amazing with my own culture and I felt very proud.

*Shally refers to Zay's elder sister.