

The Silk Road: What Was It Really?



7th Grade Social Studies

The Silk Road

The actual Silk Road was not one continuous route, but several routes over both land and sea.

It helped to connect Europe, Asia, and Africa together just like global trade connects many peoples today.

Trade and influences went from Europe and Africa to Asia and from Asia to other parts of the world.

Some trade went north to south as well.



The Silk Road

Notice how many regions are tied together by the routes of the Silk Road



How Long did the Silk Road Last?

The road began during the time of the Han Chinese (206 BC-220 AD) when silk and other goods were brought as far as Egypt and other provinces of the Roman Empire.

Trade changed in modern times, but never went away altogether along the routes of the Silk Road.



What Was Traded on the Silk Road?

Silk

Other valuable trade goods

Inventions

Religions

Musical instruments

Crops

Animals and animal products

Your Task

With your partner you will need to complete the webquest by finding:

1. Three trade goods along the Silk Road
2. Five cities located along the Silk Road
3. Three religions that influenced people along the Silk Road
4. Four inventions from China that passed along the Silk Road
5. Three instruments that passed along the Silk Road

Once you and your partner complete one of the tasks I will come along and stamp your map like a passport letting you know you have completed that part of the webquest and that you can proceed to the next “stop”

Turkmen Camel Driver



Melon Vendor



Cities Along the Silk Road

Some important stops on the silk road were:

Samarqand, Uzbekistan: The Registan built from the 1400s to 1600s

Bukhara, Uzbekistan : The historic center

Id Kah Mosque in Kashgar, China: Completed in 1442

Silk Road Lesson Plan

Aaron Jackson

Standard: 7.1.4 Describe the importance of the Silk Road on the histories of Europe, Africa, and Asia

Procedure:

1. Students will analyze a PowerPoint concerning basic facts of the Silk Road
2. Students will join with a partner to complete the webquest on the Silk Road
3. Students will complete a map as the work on the Silk Road webquest by finding 3 religions, 5 cities, 3 instruments, 4 Chinese inventions, and 3 trade goods that were involved in the Silk Road trade
4. Each time a task is completed by the students that part of the map will be stamped to show progress and to check for understanding
5. Once the map is complete the students are to turn it in

Ways to Extend Lesson

1. Have students write a paragraph where they describe what they think would have happened if there was no Silk Road to shape Africa, Europe, and Asia.
2. Have students write a journal entry where they write from the perspective of someone who travelled the Silk Road.

Resources

PowerPoint

https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1nyL2vH5cYdKbnThrsF70RO_8t8AhN8ws7HJKlQLkZ1l/edit#slide=id.g15e2c79c29_1_18

Webquest Website

<http://zunal.com/webquest.php?w=326492>

Websites Used as Resources for this Project

<https://people.hofstra.edu/geotrans/eng/ch2en/conc2en/silkroad.html>

<http://en.unesco.org/silkroad/network-silk-road-cities-map-app/en>

<http://www.festival.si.edu/2002/the-silk-road/the-silk-road-crossroads-and-encounters-of-faith/smithsonian>

<http://sacu.org/greatinventions.html>

<http://virtuallabs.stanford.edu/silkroad/SilkRoad.html>