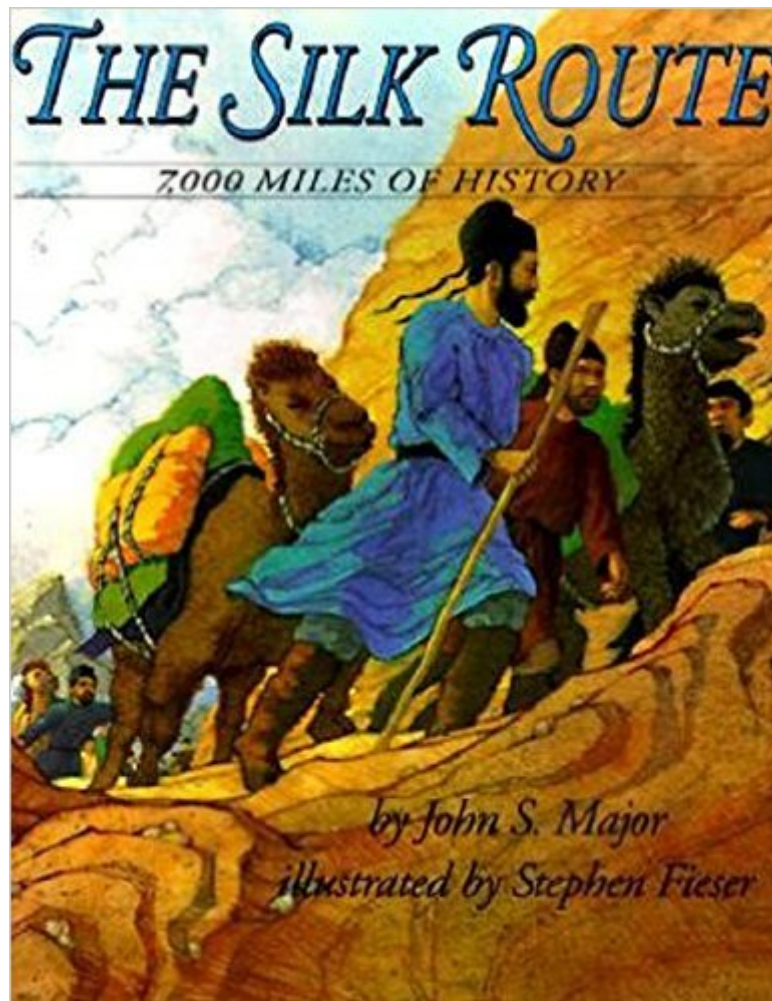


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# The Silk Route: 7,000 Miles Of History



## Synopsis

Silk has long been considered a symbol of wealth and luxury. But thousands of years ago, the production of silk cloth was one of China's most prized secrets. So how did silk become one of the most sought-after materials in the world? With lavish illustrations and a highly informative text, *The Silk Route* traces the early history of the silk trade—from the mulberry groves of China to the marketplace in Byzantium—and explores how two of the world's greatest empires were brought together, forever opening the channels of commerce between East and West.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD1140L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; 2.7.1996 edition (March 8, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064434680

ISBN-13: 978-0064434683

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.1 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #349,301 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #50 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Asia](#) #92 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Medieval](#) #138 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery](#)

Age Range: 6 - 10 years

Grade Level: 3 - 5

## Customer Reviews

This is a large-format book, about 9 X 12, and the pages are packed with information. Each page reflects a different culture with different customs, architectural styles, and ethnicities, moving from China east to Constantinople. The illustrations are well-drawn and offer a lot of information in their own right; the text is a wonderful look at cultural communication and long-distance travel. The reading level is not difficult, but the interest level is vast -- 2nd grade to adult.

This is a truly wonderful book that helps children understand an important part of the history of China. The book has a map of the road the caravan travels, describes the major stops along the

way, and explains the difficulties and hardships these travellers encountered. I especially enjoyed the description of the topography the caravan crosses, as I believe it gives children a great mental picture for them to understand the great diversity of geography in China.

This book was built on a sound concept, but the finished result does not quite deliver. The text is not very engaging, rather it is impersonal and borders on dry. The "caravan" is nameless and faceless as well as the "merchants" along the way. The progression through the Silk Route and the accompanying artwork is very well done. The factual background is great. The book could have been great...but will have to settle for good...and very useful due to lack of abundant children's resources on the subject.

this book is very beautiful illustrated, but the text is much richer than anticipated because it makes bold statements and correlations with facts not well known. it presents very sophisticated ideas with kindness and precision.

I wanted some background for younger children into the Han Dynasty as we were reading a Chinese folktale about the little Empress who took the secret of the silkworm with her to a new marriage, thereby revealing the centuries old secret. While the book is easily understood it was not intriguing enough to hold their interest. Not being familiar with the Silk Route myself, I found it quite interesting. But I have to give it 4 stars instead of 5 because it is supposed to be for children. I teamed the folk story and the story of the silk trade and ancient road with gifts of Chinese Barbie dolls for the granddaughters. And we discussed also the influence on fashion in the West after the International exhibition of 1862 during the Victorian years, in home decorations, gardens, porcelain china, dresses, and even the English Royals household dogs (Japanese Spaniels, now the Japanese Chin...which originated in China.

This book was included in a Maryland Department of Education lesson plan for teaching the Silk Road. I purchased the book for this purpose and is correlated very well to the lesson plan. Excellent artwork. Valuable content. A good geography storybook

This is a very simple book for young reader who can be entertained with pictures and a brief story. It wets the appetite for looking deeper into a fascinating piece of history and a cultures that are still just being discovered.

I used this book with my 1st grader when studying ancient civilizations. She really enjoyed learning about the different stops along the Silk Route. It is a wonderful introduction to what it would have been like to travel such a long distance at that time. This book gives detail, but not so much detail that it is confusing. One of my daughter's favorite parts was copying the different letters for Silk in 4 different languages. She now has this book in her room and frequently chooses to read it.

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