

# Marco Polo



Marco Polo was born in \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Marco's family were \_\_\_\_\_.

In Venice at this time you could find all of these goods for sale:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Traders could get to China by traveling overland via the \_\_\_\_\_.

Traders could also reach China by going ship along the \_\_\_\_\_



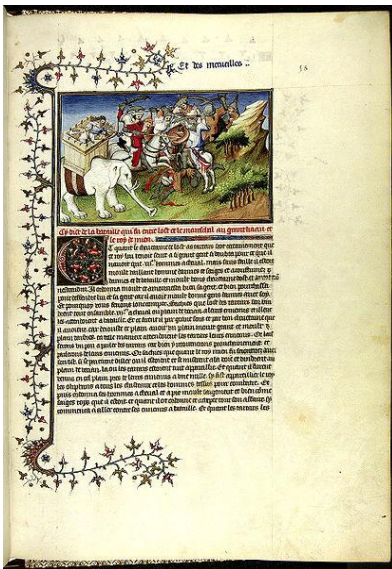
When Marco Polo was little his \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ traveled East. Their journey lasted \_\_\_\_\_ years. They returned home when Marco was \_\_\_\_\_.

Two years later, they decided to return to China this time with Marco Polo. Kublai Khan had asked them to return to China with \_\_\_\_\_ from the tomb of Jesus.



The three Polos traveled to the Holy Land and found two Dominican \_\_\_\_\_ willing to travel with them. The monks became terrified of bandits and returned to Jerusalem while the Polos continued on their way.

They reached Kublai Khan's summer \_\_\_\_\_ at Shangdu. Marco described Kublai as "the most \_\_\_\_\_ ruler, in subjects and in land and in treasure, that the \_\_\_\_\_ has ever known."



Marco told of

\*paper \_\_\_\_\_,

\*unicorns (probably \_\_\_\_\_)

\*tales about a mysterious southern land - probably \_\_\_\_\_

\*War \_\_\_\_\_

\* \_\_\_\_\_ fishers



# Marco Polo Answers

Marco Polo was born in **Venice, Italy**

Marco's family were **merchants**

In Venice at this time you could find all of these goods for sale:

**glassware; glazed tiles; pottery; metal ware; Chinese ceramics; porcelain; bronze; silk and wool; exotic spices**

Traders could get to China by traveling overland via the **Silk Road**

Traders could also reach China by going ship along the **Spice Route**

When Marco Polo was little his **father and uncle** traveled East. Their journey lasted **9** years. They returned home when Marco was **15**.

Two years later, they decided to return to China this time with Marco Polo. Kublai Khan had asked them to return to China with **Holy Oil** from the tomb of Jesus.

The three Polos traveled to the Holy Land and found two Dominican **monks** willing to travel with them. The monks became terrified of bandits and returned to Jerusalem while the Polos continued on their way.

They reached Kublai Khan's summer **palace** at Shangdu. wa Marco described Kublai as "the most **powerful** ruler, in subjects and in land and in treasure, that the **world** has ever known."

Marco told of

- paper **money**
- \*unicorns (probably **rhinoceros**)
- \*tales about a mysterious southern land -probably **Australia**
- \*War **Elephants**
- \***Pearl** fishers
- \*People with **gold-plated** teeth
- \*"men with tails" -- **orangutans**

After traveling in the East for over 20 years, the Polos wanted to go home. They left with the princess Kokachin to help guide the fleet to the borders of Iran. They brought home rubies, seeds from Asian trees and other wonders.

After returning home Marco Polo was appointed commander of a Venetian ship. Venice was fighting Genoa. Marco was captured and was put in jail. There he met Rustichello who offered to write down his tales. Their book Description of the World was later renamed the Adventures of Marco Polo.

It became a best seller in Europe! Even Christopher Columbus had a copy when he set out to find a route to Asia by sailing West in 1492.

# Books and Resources we used for this unit

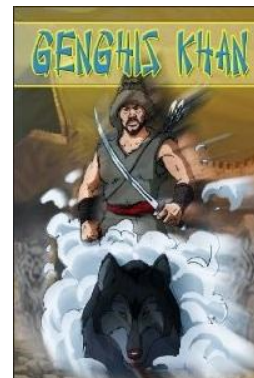
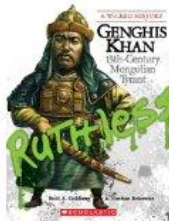
## Genghis Khan

*Genghis Khan and the Mongol Empire* by Miriam Greenblatt: We read this aloud together. It has anecdotes that kept the kids engaged. It goes fairly well with the events depicted in the animate film we watched

*Genghis Khan: Animated Classic* -- Available for streaming at Amazon Instant Videos (right).

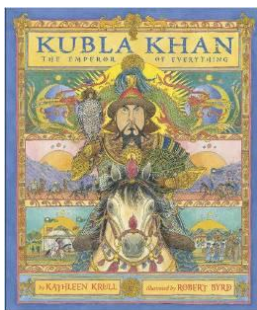
The kids also read *Genghis Khan:*

*13th Century Mongolian Tyrant*



## Kublai Khan

*Kubla Khan: The Emperor of Everything* by Kathleen Krull: This was another book we read aloud. The pictures were vivid.



## Marco Polo:

*Marco Polo* by Demi

*Marco Polo a Journey Through China* by Fiona MacDonald

*The Adventures of Marco Polo* by Russell Freedman

We watched

*Horrible Histories: Marvelous Marco Polo*

*Animated Hero Classics: Marco Polo*

and a movie about Marco Polo

