

Marco Polo



Who Was Marco Polo?

Marco Polo was born in Italy in 1254. He died in 1324.

Where did he go?

Marco's family were traders. When he was 17, Marco went to sea with his dad and uncle to visit the Emperor of China.

How did he travel?

Marco's family owned boats. They used camels to cross land.

What happened to him?

The Emperor gave Marco a job and he went to India, Burma and Sri Lanka. In Indonesia, Marco saw a rhinoceros for the first time. He thought it was a unicorn.

Marco lived in China for 17 years.

Reading task – can you answer these questions?

- 1) When did Marco Polo live?
- 2) Where did Marco Polo go on his travels? Can you find these places on a map or globe?
- 3) Why do you think Marco Polo thought a rhinoceros was a unicorn?
- 4) Can you draw a picture of something Marco Polo did or saw?

Challenge Task

Many people think that Marco Polo brought Pasta to Italy from China. Can you ask your grown-ups how to cook pasta and then write some instructions for us to follow? Don't forget to use **imperative (bossy) verbs** and number each step.