


The Silk Road got its name from the material that was first traded along its routes. Silk is a beautiful, soft cloth that was very popular in Europe. But long ago, only people in China knew how to make silk.

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Rich people in other parts of the world wanted to buy silk to make beautiful clothes. Traders could make a lot of money bringing silk to Europe from China.

Fact *Silkworms* make silk. These insects spin silk *cocoons* to cover and protect themselves as they change into moths. People unwind the silk thread from these cocoons to make silk cloth.

silkworm

cocoon

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