

GATHERING GOODS FOR THE MARKETPLACE

GO SHOPPING!

Search the Asian Art Museum's collection for a piece of art that you will sell in the marketplace. Create a 1-minute commercial to persuade your classmates to buy your object. Use evidence from the "Hints" about what made objects valuable to merchants trading along the Silk and Spice Routes.

HINTS: What makes a piece of art valuable?

- **Limited natural resources** such as, tea, spices, horses, porcelain, pepper, grapes, cobalt, and jade.
- **Advanced technology** such as, paper, silk, glass, gunpowder, and bronze.
- **Religious objects** such as Buddhist, Islamic, and Hindu texts, had spiritual value and helped these ideas travel.
- **Powerful people** such as emperors and kings often set trends with what they buy and collect.



Camel, approx. 690–750. China, Shaanxi or Henan province. Tang dynasty (618–906). Glazed earthenware. *The Avery Brundage Collection*, B60S95.

TALKING POINTS. Gather information about your piece of art. Use the back of this paper to write a script for your commercial.

1. Introduce the product:
 - a. What object did you choose?
 - b. When was it made?
 - c. Where was it made? Mark this on your map.
 - d. What materials are used?

2. Describe your piece of art to someone who can't see it.

3. Why is your piece of art so interesting and valuable? Be creative.