

# Golden Plates to



**1.** The angel Moroni showed Joseph Smith where to find the golden plates. They were buried in the Hill Cumorah.



**2.** Four years later, Joseph and his wife, Emma, went in a wagon to get the plates.



**3.** People tried to steal the plates many times. Once Joseph hid them under the bricks of the fireplace.



**5.** The writing on the plates was in an ancient language. Through inspiration and the power of the Holy Ghost, Heavenly Father helped Joseph Smith translate what the writing said.



**4.** Another time he hid them in the barn loft. Once on a trip Joseph and Emma hid the plates in a barrel of beans.

## MORE ABOUT THE PLATES

- ◆ The pages were thin sheets of metal. And symbols were carved onto the metal.
- ◆ The plates were written in a language called Egyptian.
- ◆ The plates probably weighed 40–60 pounds, as five bowling balls!
- ◆ Part of the plates were sealed so they could not be read. The common comes from the unsealed part. He said, "In the day we will have the translation of the sealed part."

# Book of Mormon

**7.** Joseph didn't have much schooling, so he wasn't good at writing or spelling. But Heavenly Father helped him understand what the plates said.



**8.** Oliver Cowdery was one of Joseph's scribes. He wrote down the words as Joseph read them out loud. Martin Harris and Emma were also scribes for a short time.

**6.** Joseph used a special rock called a seer stone to translate the plates. He also used a tool called the Urim and Thummim, two clear rocks bound together with metal that looked like a pair of glasses. This tool had been buried in the Hill Cumorah with the plates.



**9.** Only a few people saw the plates. Eight men, called the Eight Witnesses, saw and touched the plates.



**10.** The Three Witnesses saw the plates too. They also saw an angel and heard God's voice. You can read the testimonies of the witnesses at the beginning of the Book of Mormon.



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ouldn't be opened. The Book of Mor-  
venly Father has promised that some-  
ealed part too (see [Ether 3:27](#), [4:4-7](#)).