



# Ideas to Teach “An Angel Came to Joseph Smith”

**Please Note:** President Gordon B. Hinckley explained how as a young boy, music strengthened his testimony of Joseph Smith: “They were singing of the Prophet Joseph Smith, and as they did so there came into my heart a great surge of love for and belief in the Prophet of this generation. I knew then, by the power of the Holy Ghost, that Joseph Smith was indeed a prophet of God.” (Praise to the Man, Ensign, Aug. 1983, 2).

## IDEA #1

“Pictures can be an important part of telling a story. For example, you might help children review a story by asking them to place several pictures in sequence and then having each child tell part of the story.” (Teaching, No Greater Call, p. 176)

### Materials you will need:

Gospel Art Pictures:

Verse 1

#404–Moroni Appears to Joseph Smith

#406–Joseph Smith Receives the Golden Plates

#325–The Gold Plates

Verse 2

#302–The Liahona

#304–Lehi and His People

Verse 3

#307–King Benjamin Addresses his People

#311–Anti-Nephi-Lehis Bury Swords

#316–Jesus Teaching

Verse 4

#317–Jesus Healing

#322–Jesus Blesses Nephite Children

#216–Christ and the Children

Book of Mormon

Words on a piece of paper. Write the scriptures references down on another piece of paper and give them ahead of time to a teacher or child that can read well.

Verse 1

**WHO?** (was the angel)...Moroni

JS History 1:30, 33

**WHERE?** (was the sacred record)...in the Hill Cumorah

JS History 1:51

**WHAT?** (was the Holy Book)...The Book of Mormon

Verse 2

**HOW?** (did the Lord lead the people)...Liahona

**WHO?** (was led across the sea)...Lehi and his family

Verse 3

**WHEN?** (did the Lamanites & Nephites have peace)

...After Christ appeared to the people in the New World,

4 Ne. 1:2, 17-18

Verse 4

**WHEN?** (will you read The Book of Mormon)

Ask the children what time of the day is best for them to read

**WHAT?** (are examples of Heavenly Father’s love)

...Christ blessing the children, both in the New Testament and The Book of Mormon

3 Ne. 17:7, 9, 11-12, Mark 10:13-14, 16

### Tell the children:

“I am thinking about someone that you all know. Let’s see how quickly you can guess who it is with a few clues:

**1. This person was born about 200 years ago.**

(Take a few guesses)

**2. This person was very close to his parents and his brothers and sisters. They all worked very hard to take care of their family.**

(Guesses)

**3. This person came grew up in a time when there was a lot of interest in religion. He was searching for the truth and didn’t know which church to join.**

### Take responses and tell them:

“That’s right! The person I am thinking of is Joseph Smith. We are going to sing a song today that tells us more about him and what he helped bring forth.

I’m going to need some help to tell you this story. (Select seven volunteers to stand with you at the front. After you sing the phrase and ask the questions, pass the pictures and questions to these helpers):

### Show picture #404 and sing:

*An angel came to Joseph Smith,*

“Could you sing this with me?”

*An angel came to Joseph Smith,*

### Show the piece of paper with the word “WHO?” and ask:

“Who was the angel that came to Joseph Smith?”

(Responses)

Hand the paper to the person standing next to picture #404.

“Let’s hear what Joseph said about this angel. About three years after Joseph had gone to the grove to pray he was worried about his weaknesses. He knew he wasn’t perfect and prayed at his bedside “for forgiveness of his sins and follies (foolish actions).

This is what he said":  
(Have the previously asked volunteer read JS History 1:30, 33)

"This time, let's sing:  
*An angel came to Joseph Smith,*

Then we'll pause and when we do, (person holding the paper "WHO?") will say so we all can barely hear,  
*MORONI*

**Show picture #406 & 325 and sing:**  
*An angel came to Joseph Smith, (pause–MORONI)*  
*and from the ground he took*  
*A sacred record hidden there,*

**Pass the pictures to volunteers and show the piece of paper with the word "WHERE?" and ask:**

"Where was the sacred record found?"  
(Responses)

Hand the paper to the person standing next to picture #325.

"Let's hear what Joseph said about this." (Have the previously asked volunteer read JS History 1:51)

"This place is known today as the Hill Cumorah."

(Ask the class if anyone has visited the Hill Cumorah and how they felt being there.)

**Point to pictures and words being held and sing:**  
*An angel came to Joseph Smith, (pause–MORONI)*  
*and from the ground he took*  
*A sacred record hidden there,*  
*A precious holy book.*

"This time, after we sing:  
*A sacred record hidden there,*

Then we'll pause and when we do, (person holding picture #406) will say so we all can barely hear,  
*IN THE HILL CUMORAH*

**Sing and point to the pictures and words:**  
*An angel came to Joseph Smith, (pause–MORONI)*  
*and from the ground he took*  
*A sacred record hidden there, (pause–IN THE HILL CUMORAH)*  
*A precious holy book.*

**Show the piece of paper with the word "WHAT?" and ask:**

"WHAT was this sacred record called after it was translated and printed?" (The Book of Mormon)

**Pass a Book of Mormon to a volunteer and tell them:**

"Let's sing this verse again with the pauses, and at the end, we'll have (volunteer with the Book of Mormon) hold up this book of scripture and say, so we can all hear:  
*THE BOOK OF MORMON!*

**Sing and point to the pictures and words:**  
*An angel came to Joseph Smith, (pause–MORONI)*  
*and from the ground he took*  
*A sacred record hidden there, (pause–IN THE HILL CUMORAH)*  
*A precious holy book. (THE BOOK OF MORMON!)*

This same process can be used for the three other verses of "An Angel Came to Joseph Smith." Use the scriptural references noted and read the back of each picture so you can help the children understand what the verses of this song can teach us about Joseph Smith and the Book of Mormon. Don't forget to add your testimony!

**W**

**H**

**O**

**?**

(was the angel)...Moroni

# WHETHER?

(was the sacred record)...in the Hill Comorah

**WHEAT?**

(was the Holy Book)...The Book of Mormon

**HE WIS?**

(did the Lord lead the people)... Liahona

**WHEE!**

(was led across the sea)...Lehi and his family

**WHEEZE!**

(did the Lamanites & Nephites have peace)

**WHEEZE!**

(will you read The Book of Mormon)

# WHERE AT?

(are examples of Heavenly Father's love)