

September 2018 Report: Education Outreach

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Development:

- Beginning Season of Light research and plans (Home Depot and Neiman's cookies likely confirmed)
- Season of light craft ideas– Norwegian Christmas hearts, Polish Christmas star, Mexican tin (aluminum) Milagros, mini piñatas, Polish papercrafts (wycinanki, pajaki), Swedish Dala horse, St. Lucia crown, Ukrainian spiderweb snowflakes, poinsettia pinwheel, yule log, paper doily and plate angels and trees
 - Histories–
 - Gingerbread history and cultural influence, Hansel and Gretel, architecture (Paper bag and cardboard models (ornaments, can be take home crafts)
 - Angels– Varied through cultures, Scandinavian & German Christkindt (Gift giver) Popularized on the Christmas tree after Queen Victoria brings the evergreen into Windsor castle.
 - 12 Days of Christmas– Originated in children's book without music 1780, 1909 English arrangement, 364 gifts in song total (one for each day minus Christmas), can be played as a game of "forfeits", words and gifts changed over time
 - Tree toppers– symbolism in pointing towards the heavens, angels and stars representative of the nativity story, spires/finials to represent cathedrals, modern pagan families choose symbols of the sun. Britain even used the union jack during 1870s
 - Birds– Northern European symbols using birds, good luck in the new year, health wealth and happiness, Swedish "Julekarve" straw bundle to represent gift to the birds, but also ability to share with less fortunate even in poor times
- Beginning to lead new school groups, using materials on file from past experiences to plan. Upcoming school trips from Cheboygan, Ella White. Extra Fisheries research done for NEMIGLSI partnership and Native American gallery future trips
- Jingle Bell Run and Giving Tuesday upcoming events for November, Fall Harvest write-up in late Sept. newsletter (w/ Founder's pie sale)

Implementation and Evaluation:

- Fall Harvest Fossil Fest on Oct. 6th, full reflection to follow in October report. September planning activities included many follow ups and work on the map/pamphlets. I secured the petting zoo, pumpkin donation, apple press and Kipfmiller apples, craftspeople (stone and jewelry), founders pies, and Music for You performance. Decided against additional prizes, using materials already at the museum.
- This month we hosted two Fisheries themed school visits in coordination with NEMIGLSI. The planning was primarily between Meag Schwartz and myself, although Brandon Schroeder, Tuffy, Bonnie Cross, and Jim Johnson were also involved as activity leaders. The second trip Brandon was unavailable, and we worked with Alleigh Pagels, who was incredibly helpful (from conservation district).
 - Minor adjustments to be made, during trip two we had a schedule typo that originated at NEMIGLSI but nobody (including teachers) noticed until the end of the day. We ended up with an extra half hour of time, so even with one group staying in a session for too long, and another rotating to the wrong session, we were still able to get all groups to all sessions for the same lengths of time.