The Christmas Tree Ship Series: A Story Hour

Background: Storytelling started long before there was a written language and books like we have today. Stories explain phenomena (things that happen) in nature, such as...how this lake or this mountain got here, or why we have thunder and lightning. They pass on the culture and history of people, and they entertain. Storytelling is an art that comes in many different forms and anyone can participate. We are all storytellers!

Focus Question: How do we learn about our past?

Student Objectives:
- List of cargo schooners once carried on the Great Lakes.
- Explain what a schooner is.
- Make a storytelling ornament.

Materials:
- One ornament kit for each student.
- One paper plate per student.

Vocabulary Words:
- Schooner

Teacher Preparation:
- Schedule your IVC session.
- Gather all materials.

Procedure:
- Have materials ready for students but do not distribute until instructed to.
- Connect with Milwaukee Public Museum.

Assessment:
- Name another story that also tells about your past.
- What other ways are stories told?