### Project Title / Your Name

Creative Egg Shells – Past Student

### General Description

I will be analyzing how I experienced the six aspects of the creative process in order to physically manifest a new: way to use a set of eggshells and a paper egg tray in order to decorate my desk, and make it more delightful.

### Personal Background

Provide a description of your experience (or lack of experience) with this topic.

I often have many ideas for crafts made from recycled items that I found in my house, and create something new and more helpful, such as turning an aluminum can into my pen holder, or making a rocket with a big bottle of water (my project in high school). I’m always excited in creatively making something different from what it is used to be. This time, I reused an egg tray, or egg carton made from recycled paper, and four eggshells because I think they didn’t have to be waste. I turned four eggshells into a family egg, and become two flower pots, two planters at the same time. I used the egg tray not only to hold the eggs but also place them at two different backgrounds: a family egg on an island, or on a car. I can switch the background back and forth. After I finish, I put them on my desk to decorate learning space.

### Analysis

1. The Ordinary World: Developing Habits and Skills

What are some assumptions, beliefs, ideas, behaviors, and old approaches that defined your ordinary world of reusing an egg tray set? Provide as many specifics from your past experiences to support your claims.

In my ordinary world of reusing an egg tray set, I assumed that eggshells would not be reused because they could be broken into small pieces after I cracked them. Thus, every time I’m done with cooking, I always just throw them away, and not even think of its usage.

Another assumption I had was that the eggshells could not hold anything heavy except white and yellow York. To me, the shells seem to be really thin, easy to be crushed, and not likely support a heavy load.

I also assumed that the eggshells were not able to contain water because I thought they were not water-resistant.

My idea about labels attached on the egg tray also defined my ordinary world of reusing the set of egg tray. I thought I should take out all the labels or stickers on it. By doing that, I would easily draw or paint anything on the egg carton because the labels could be glossy, slippery or hard to draw on it.

Beside those assumptions and ideas, I also believe in creating my products quick by myself, without supports needed from someone else. I think I just need focus on it, make it with some materials I had at my home.

I also believed that my tray could hold the eggs only, so I just need to put the egg in at the
end.

One old approach in my ordinary was the way to decorate my egg tray, and the eggshells. I thought I could choose only one style or one pattern of decorating and follow that style to draw, paint the set.

Another old approach was the way that I or anyone normally place the eggs in the tray. I always put the eggs into their cup’s position so that they can stand firmly.

The issues that I had in first stage were complacency, and lack of awareness. I was complacent about my ability and my time limitation, and how could make it by myself. I was not aware of the way I normally put the eggs, decorate the tray, and the ability to store of eggshells. In this stage, I solved those issues by acknowledge that alternatives were possible.

2. Answering the Call: Choosing to Explore

What are some examples of when you took a leap of faith and made a choice to venture beyond his ordinary world of ______________? What are some examples of fears and pessimistic thoughts that he had to overcome? Provide as many specifics from your experiences during your project experiences (last few weeks) to support your claims.

I was afraid that I would crush all eggshells, and end up turning them to garbage, and I have to spend much money on buying new egg trays. Then, I need to decide eat the new eggs all or dispose them all again. That would make me really disappointed.

I was also afraid that my sister could yell at me for making our small room messier and dirty; she might be angry of my amount of money to invest in this project.

I was pessimistic about my idea: putting soil and water in the eggshells. I was so worried about the ability of holding soil and water of the eggshells because I could see how thin the shells were with a lot of small pores on its surface. If it was not being able to contain it, all of my effort and time put in would be wasted, and I need to spend more time redoing it.

I had a fear of failure that my classmate will be laughing at my product, and my sister will make fun at me, or they even will not understand why I made this material.

I even had negative thought that my material was not creative and interesting enough for this final project, and it can’t be compared to other materials.

3. Entering the Sea of Possibilities: Letting go of the Ordinary World

What are some examples of assumptions, beliefs, ideas, behaviors, and old approaches that you threw out or challenged in order to more fully creatively approach his project? Provide as many specifics from your project experiences (last few weeks) to support your claims.

In this stage, I let go of my ordinary world of reusing the egg tray set. I let go of the assumption of not reusing the eggshells because they are thin, fragile, and not strong enough to store heavy stuff. I tried cracking the shells with a sharp nail scissor to cut small holes on the top of the shells. It worked really well, and the shells were not broken into pieces, or crushed badly. I also let the eggshells hold the soil, and water for one night, and they were still perfect.
with that without cracking or being damaged, so I decided to turn them into flower pots, and planters.

I challenged my idea of removing the glossy labels and stickers by rethinking that if while peeling off the labels, I might tear off the egg carton, and my tray could get thinner, and then not be firm enough to keep or hold the eggs. Thus, I decided to glue tissue paper to egg tray in order to cover the labels, and then I could decorate on the tissue paper more easily.

I also challenged my belief in doing on my own by recognizing that just by myself, I could not finish my material quickly. I started sharing my idea of my product to my sister while she felt relaxing most, and she turned to be interested in. She helped me buy some necessary stuff, such as PVA glue, tissue paper, color, and also glue some part together.

I then let go another belief of egg tray could only store eggs. Instead of eggshells, I found that the egg tray actually had more space to store other small things, like: coin, eraser, pencil lead holder, or even some pens and pencils.

The old approach of using only one pattern or style to decorate the egg tray was also threw out by me when I decided to follow two styles of decoration. Those two styles were my two different background that I wanted to choose for my family eggs; so the family can be on an island, or they can be on a car.

I did ask myself what if I could choose the different position in the egg tray to place the eggs in, for example, with upside down position, I might be able to put the eggs at the bottom side of the tray. Moreover, I also gained support from my sister, and get the inspiration from her fashion work, which made me more confident on what I was making.

4. Trials and Tribulations: Actively Generating New Ideas

(Refer to the specific strategy: Going with the Flow. Mixing and Matching. Random Stimulation. Reframing. Establishing an Exploratory Environment.)

I used Going with the flow strategy when I asked myself how I could I decorate the set in many ways, and I came up from one idea to another idea. I said to myself that the egg tray looks like a car, and also an island, and then switch to idea of making four eggs to become a family egg being on the car, or on the island; next, I asked myself if I could draw two faces on one eggshell to have more expressions. I just let my mind wandering and freely think of different ideas as much as I could. I just unintentionally create the list of things I could do for my product.

With mixing and matching strategy, I applied it for my egg tray containing two separate parts: the lid/top and the bottom which both have two sides decorated following the backgrounds: a car, and an island; but on each side of the egg tray, the top and the bottom need to matched
each other in the sense of being the car or being the island. For example, to turn the tray into a car, the lid of tray with a half top of the car drawing needs to be matched with the half bottom of the car decorated on the tray’s bottom.

I also used Random stimulations, such as an image of my family which I randomly saw on my desk. I just thought why I didn’t decorate four eggshells as a family egg with four members, and they would represent for my own family with these smiley happy faces. Thus, I can think of them like these egg being happy and always smile. This can help me lessen my home sick, and delight me as well. Another random stimulation was when I picked a pen from a pen holder, and found that anything with small space could become a holder. I recognized that with a cone shape, dividers between eggs can hold one pen or even two pen if I cut it half to make the hole bigger.

Reframing strategy was used when I placed the eggshells with the upside down position of the egg tray. I reframed the case that I would put the eggshells in a position or state of the egg tray that different from the original position (in the egg cup), so I decided to keep the egg tray upside down and put the shells on empty spaces. Moreover, I reframed the background of inside the egg tray which was super boring and wanted make it more relaxing, so then I painted the inside the tray as an island with green tree, the volcano, and the ocean with waves.

Establishing an Exploratory environment strategy was applied when I and my sister discuss how we chose the color and materials for decoration the car and the island. While looking the egg tray, we allow ourselves to emerge our creativities into an environment of diverse individuals. We didn’t think any of them was more creative, and we tried to focus on this creative moment, and space where we felt most comfortable and trust each other. I was glad that my sister seemed to really trust my idea when I came up with the green car on the paper tissue paper. She not only accepted that idea, but also added more idea on it which was bolding the line for the lights, the door, the edge of the trunk after painting. We become a real group, and let go of our “I”, so that we can integrate our ideas to the best idea. For example, we collected the ideas of making an island from each other, including the brown volcano with red larva, or green tiny tree. My sister also had creative leadership when she asked me how I wanted to make the ocean, and what the ocean I like most. At that time, I came up with the idea of drawing the waves like moving to make the ocean more real.

5. Retrieving the Reward: Letting Ideas Find You

What are some examples of when you had an “aha!” flash of insight; when a came to you with a creative idea without actively looking for it? In what way were you relaxed, defocused, or let go of control when the creative insight came to you? Provide as many specifics from your project experiences (last few weeks) to support your claims.

After the whole afternoon being tired figuring out the way to start on the egg tray, and some creative way of making it unique, I ended up driving back to my home. On my car, I enjoyed listening to my favorite song, and was relaxed with cool air and a perfect cup of iced green tea. Driving is always the time I forget everything in my life, and let my mind calm and relaxing. Then, just in a flash of time, I suddenly came up with the idea of using egg tray with two sides
rather than just one side, and decorating two sides of it with different backgrounds/styles.

I decided to take a sleep while waiting for the glue get dried on paper tissue. With a good deep sleep when my mind and body were extremely relaxed, and when I let go control of everything. When I woke up, I was happy to have the new idea of expanding the capacity of egg tray. With four eggshells, the tray can still have some more spaces, so I made it be able to hold pens and let the empty cup contain any tiny things, like erasers, coins,

6. The Return Home: Bringing Your Ideas to Life

What are some examples of ideas that you tried turning into a reality? What are examples of how you had to evaluate your ideas critically? What are examples of how you had to set goals, organize, plan, gather resources and materials in order to manifest your ideas? Describe examples of how you had to stay focus and work hard. Provide as many specifics from your project experience (last few weeks) to support your claims.

I had an idea of reusing the egg tray with decorating in different ways, and put it back to my desk to make the desk more delightful. To be able to turn into a reality, I had to overcome some difficulties while planning making it.

First, I set goal for time that I could make it in one day. However, I had to rethink and evaluate my work when my housemate threw away my eggshells because he thought they were useless. Furthermore, I had to wait the paper tissue, and color to get dry for one night. Thus, I had to spend more time remaking the eggshells, and waiting for the tray get dry, but I gave myself more time and less pressure by focusing on and completing the remaining steps well.

Second, I had struggled with the decorating materials before my sister helped me. I thought I could use some things in my house to decorate the tray and eggshells, but I didn’t find anything fancy or nice, including the color. Then, I went to Walmart to quickly buy random colors like white red, orange, purple and glittering without thinking if they would be appropriate and suitable for my ideas. At the end, I changed my mind not to use those colors, and my sister needed to buy different colors for me (blue, green, brown, and white)

Third, I was so clumsy that 2 complete eggshells were dropped and broken on the floor. This made me really frustrated and disappointed of myself. I remembered when I finished all the steps to make the set, unluckily I crushed an eggshell while rearranging the orders of them. I just hold not firmly enough, and the shell was going off my hand. I felt so pity, and couldn’t accept my mistake; but I had to make a new one again.

Fourth, I nearly gave up on decorating the egg tray because it was hard when drawing and painting upon the slippery, glossy labels and when hiding the logo, and stickers.

Firth, I had to cover the label with paper tissues, but it needed a lot of tissue to be able to cover the label. I could feel sticky glue on my fingers, and it also took a lot of time to glue it to the egg tray.

Next, whenever I crushed an eggshell, I forgot the great idea at the beginning when I started on this project. I was not motivated anymore. I also felt pressure with the time limitation on our
Presentation Description
A brief description of how you plan to creatively combine your material with your partner’s material for your presentation.

Our group of three planned to act out. We are like three sellers of a souvenir shop selling our products including necklaces, an egg tray, and giving out a poem to tourists as a shop’s free gift. We are going to show our slides and turn them into our advertisement and promotion. We will have a promotion that buy 1 necklace get one egg tray, and a poem for free. Next, each of us will introduce our products and their function as well as the unique and creative aspects of them. We will explain and introduce our products live in front of audiences, and every time we switch to show another product, we will make a compliment of how nice it is or how well they work.

Conclusion
Summarize your experience as a whole including lessons learned and any future plans pertaining to your project.

I figured out that it is not easy to make an idea or thought come true. It required more time, effort than I thought before starting the project. However, if I just give a try to accept new assumptions or beliefs after letting go our initial perception, I could find a solution to my problems, and overcome the difficulties. Even though, my final product looked super simple, I had to work hard on making it. I also think of the idea of whole project that my idea was simple, but in order to turn it into reality, I had to be aware of some problems that I could face, and needed to work hard, stay focus to be successful.

I really love my new egg tray set with a lot of cute things, and any kind of flowers I like. Now, my desk looks more fun and relaxing with the set. I will not be so stressful when looking at my desk and my bunch of the books, without any decoration. I can feel more comfortable whenever I am at my desk decorated with fun and helpful egg tray. In the future, I would like to make my other learning space become more delightful, just like what I did in this project. I think of my learning space when I am at my class, at my friend’s house. They don’t have to be super boring and not decorated with some things. This project makes me believe in myself that I can make my leaning spaces to be more interesting.