Documenting the Everyday

(Adapted from Out of Eden Learn’s (OOEL) Curriculum, Core Learning Journey 1: The Present and the Local)

What: An activity exploring what you can learn by carefully observing a place you know or something that people in your community do as a part of their everyday lives.

Where: In your home, neighborhood, or local environment; Indoors or outdoors

For whom: Preschool age through adult, working individually, in partners, or in groups

Timeframe: Documenting: 20-60 minutes; Organizing and sharing observations: 30-90 minutes

Facilitation: Self-facilitated, or lightly facilitated by a peer/teacher/caregiver

ACTIVITY

(Here are video/audio instructions that feature many examples of student work. The instructions are scripted from one of OOEL’s full curricula. For this reason, the video references OOEL’s online platform and other content.)

There are aspects of our everyday lives that might be very interesting to other people but which might seem very ordinary to us. There may also be parts of our everyday lives that we usually don’t find time to notice. This is your chance to notice some new things and to share your observations with other people.

Do the following:

- **Document** an everyday process. In other words, document how people in your home or community do something as part of their everyday lives. For example, you could focus on how a type of food or drink is prepared, how an object is made or repaired, or how someone—including yourself—carries out another daily task or activity.

Choose one of the following formats to collect and share your observations:

- **Video**: a short video that uses the camera to draw attention to small details. You can either write a brief description explaining the video or record a voiceover talking about what you observed. Watch Out of Eden Learn’s **Tips on Documenting Using Multimedia**
- **A slideshow** that includes photos of what you observed with some text annotations.
- **A step-by-step guide** to a process you observed, using drawings, photos, and/or text.
- **A story or memory** of something meaningful to you—for example, something that you remember playing or making when you were younger, or a place you know well. Write about the place or process in detail, including sounds, sights, smells, flavors and/or textures.

SHARE ONLINE (optional)

- Follow OOEL on Twitter and Instagram: @OutofEdenLearn.
- Share your short video, illustration, slideshow, and/or story on social media using #EdenLearn and #UncoveringtheEveryday!