OLTD 506 – Reflection of my Independent Project: Bringing Privacy to the Oceans Plastics Website. I chose this piece of evidence to reflect my understanding of the OLTD Learning Outcome **– *use digital media and tools in conscious, skilled, knowledgeable, socially responsible, and professional ways.***

The second piece of evidence I have chosen to demonstrate my learning of OLTD 509 is the independent project summary of how my partner and I have applied privacy and protection safety measures to the online course we have been working towards. Over the past year and a half, we have developed activities and assignments that make use of third-party applications and off-site information. Prior to that, we had not considered specific issues of privacy and protection, beyond a general awareness of its importance in responsibilities in that area.

I learned that in order to ***use digital media and tools in conscious, skilled, knowledgeable, socially responsible, and professional ways*** I first had to be aware of where these third-party platforms were hosted. I also had to investigate where data was being stored when my students were using the applications I (the teacher) requested. The process was a complicated and lengthy one as it was not a simple answer of yes or no to specific platforms/tools. Stipulations and contributing factors including password-protecting the website, reviewing proper online etiquette, and informing parents of what tools we were asking students to use, all had to be taken into consideration. There are many factors included in making online learning safe and in protecting the privacy of our students and it's up to us as the instructional designers of the website to use all of the tools available to us in order to ensure our student's privacy and safety.

Students have countless rapidly evolving platforms, applications and tools available to them, more than any generation in history. As an educator, I need to be hyper-aware and on the cutting edge in terms of what's new, available and trending at any given time in order to risk assess on the fly.

Risk assessments should include investigating where these platforms are hosted, where data is stored, and who has access to the information that's being input by students. As an educator, protecting my students is meaningful to my practice and there are multiple ways of doing that when it comes to learning within an online environment. It's important for me to model to my students how to source a tool, vet it, and to consider its risks and also its values.