A Solitary, Inanimate Object Project

Make a film telling the story of this unprecedented school closure and current world-wide situation.

1) Choose an inanimate object to use for the entirety of the project *(a basketball, a plant, a toothbrush, a stuffed animal, a favorite book, a mug, glasses – anything)*.

2) Once or twice a week during these social-distancing weeks, do the following:

3) Take a 30ish second film of the object.

> A. For each 30ish sec. film, show the mood/attitude/feeling/emotion *(referred to as just mood below, but think of it in whatever way works for you)* regarding these odd times – and showing perhaps the changing mood…

> B. You can be showing your mood, the mood in your house, in your community, the world – whatever you choose, but try to keep that viewpoint for the whole of the project.

>> → Do this by deciding the angle to shoot the object
>>> ie: high angle for feeling vulnerable, eye-level for fairly neutral feelings, low angle for feeling strong
>> → By deciding the shot type
>>> ie: a long shot because you want to include specific items in the background that show off the 'mood' or a close-up for a detail or an extreme close-up for a disoriented feeling.
>> → By the framing
>>> ie: tight/closed framing for a feeling of restriction or little freedom of movement – or loose framing for a feeling of freedom
>> → By camera movement
>>> ie: dolly in: being in the same space, feeling of intimacy, closeness; dolly out: portray a strong emotion/add drama, establish setting or to reveal something
>> → By the mise en scene
>>> ie: lighting (high and low key), props, colors (look again at this), "costumes" (dress the object up to reflect a mood?), etc.
>> → And anything else you see fit to help share the mood of the situation

4) Just use your phone for the project – or a camera if you have one handy.

5) And don't worry about sound, maybe you can add music or effects later, but don't bother with planning/worrying about that now.

6) Think of this as a different way to record your thoughts, using a camera to show your feelings; a way to record this strange and unique time.
> → And you will have the option to share or not share your project with the class, so don't be afraid/hesitate to show how you are feeling.