Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Block \_\_\_\_\_\_

Debrief Activity: The Bear That Wasn’t

Who am I?” is a question that each of us asks at some time in our life. In answering, we define ourselves. The word *define*means “to separate one thing from all of the others.” What distinguishes the Bear from all other bears? What distinguishes him from all the other workers at the Factory?

Part I:

With your partner or group discuss what you think the story was about then answer the questions together.

1. What does the title *The Bear That Wasn’t* mean?
2. Why didn’t the factory officials recognize the Bear for what he was?

1. Why did it become harder and harder for the Bear to maintain his identity as he moved through the bureaucracy of the factory?

Bureaucracy- like a tree or an organization; a structure that organizes the work of business or government; the system set up in the factory described in *The Bear That Wasn’t* (foreman, general manager, 3rd vice president, and so on).

1. What is Frank Tashlin suggesting about the relationship between an individual and a society?
2. What does this mean about the way that a person’s identity is defined?

*Extension-* How could this be a factor in the way that powerful individuals and groups shape the identity of those with less power and authority? Give an example.

Part II:

With your partner or group, create an identity chart for the Bear. Draw a circle in the space below and fill it in with the words you agree describe the bear. Include phrases the Bear uses to define himself, and then include words that others used to define him. What words can you add based on your own judgments?

Part III:

With your partner or group, go back and find an illustration in the book, *The Bear That Wasn’t* that you can recreate for the class in the form of a silent sculpture using your bodies and props! This will be a silent sculpture that you “act” out without sound or movement. It is a version of charades, but without movement. The class will have to try and guess which page you recreate from your silent sculpture. AGAIN… you can use props, but no sound or movement is allowed!

What page is the illustration on that are you going to recreate for your silent sculpture? \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_