**Lesson Plan - ARP\_MakingPlans\_G3-5 - 10/21/2024**

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the plans and challenges faced by President John F. Kennedy during his administration through historical accounts and significant events. The text explores Kennedy's initiatives on civil rights, space exploration, and foreign relations amidst the backdrop of the Cold War.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; civil rights; US space program

**Glossed Text:**

Making Plans (excerpt from John F. Kennedy)

By Megan M. Gunderson, Abdo Publishing

John F. Kennedy became President of the United States on January 20, 1961. He had many plans when he took office. These included programs for higher wages and aid for people experiencing \*poverty\*. He also hoped to improve \*civil rights\*.

During this time, America was part of the \*Cold War\* with the \*Soviet Union\*. Another plan was to put a person on the moon before the \*Communist\* Soviet Union did. As a result, Kennedy greatly improved the US space program.

Relationships with other countries were another concern for Kennedy. American officials wanted to stop the spread of \*Communism\*. So, they trained a group of Cubans to overthrow Cuba’s \*Communist\* leader. In 1961, the group invaded Cuba at the \*Bay of Pigs\*. However, the effort failed.

Then, in 1962, \*Communist\* China invaded India. Kennedy sent weapons to India’s army. Meanwhile, South Vietnam was fighting \*Communist\* North Vietnam. Kennedy sent thousands of US military \*advisers\* to help the South Vietnamese.

In October 1962, Kennedy learned \*nuclear\* missile bases were being built in Cuba. He wanted to stop \*Soviet\* ships from bringing supplies there. So, Kennedy stated that the US Navy would block Cuba’s coast.

The \*Soviet\* leader said his country would guard its shipping rights. A \*nuclear\* war could begin. But Kennedy held his ground. The \*Soviet\* ships stayed away from the blocked area. Kennedy won the showdown! This event became known as the \*Cuban Missile Crisis\*.

**Vocabulary Words:**

poverty (noun): the state of being extremely poor.

civil rights (noun): the rights of citizens to political and social freedom and equality.

Cold War (proper noun): the period of political tension and military rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of Communist republics that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology that advocates the establishment of a classless society through the abolition of private property.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba in 1961 by Cuban exiles, supported by the US.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology that advocates the establishment of a classless society through the abolition of private property.

Cuba (proper noun): an island country in the Caribbean.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often associated with atomic energy or weapons.

Soviet (proper adjective): relating to the former Soviet Union or its government.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology that advocates the establishment of a classless society through the abolition of private property.

South Vietnam (proper noun): a former country in Southeast Asia that existed from 1955 to 1975.

North Vietnam (proper noun): a former country in Southeast Asia that existed from 1954 to 1976.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often associated with atomic energy or weapons.

Soviet (proper adjective): relating to the former Soviet Union or its government.

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation in October 1962 between the United States and the Soviet Union over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did John F. Kennedy's presidency reflect the tensions of the Cold War?

A. By focusing solely on domestic issues, ignoring foreign policy

B. By attempting to reduce military spending and promote peace

C. By engaging in direct military actions against Communist countries

D. By prioritizing the space race to showcase technological superiority

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

2. What was one of Kennedy's major foreign policy goals during the Cold War?

A. To expand Communism in Latin America

B. To ensure the US became the first nation to land on the moon

C. To maintain peace through diplomatic negotiations exclusively

D. To support all military engagements without question

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

3. What was the outcome of the Bay of Pigs invasion?

A. It successfully overthrew Cuba's Communist leader

B. It united the Soviet Union and the United States

C. It led to heightened tensions in the Cold War

D. It resulted in a peace treaty with Cuba

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

4. How did the Cuban Missile Crisis affect US-Soviet relations?

A. It led to immediate peace treaties between the two nations

B. It caused a significant escalation in military confrontations

C. It resulted in a temporary increase in trust and dialogue

D. It demonstrated the risks of nuclear conflict and emphasized the need for communication

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

5. What strategy did Kennedy employ to confront the threat of Soviet missiles in Cuba?

A. Engaging in direct military combat with Cuba

B. Establishing a naval blockade to prevent further shipments

C. Sending nuclear weapons to Cuba as a deterrent

D. Conducting negotiations with Soviet leaders in Cuba

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]