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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and actions of John F. Kennedy during his presidency, highlighting his initiatives for economic and civil rights improvements, as well as his strategies during the Cold War. Through an engaging narrative, she outlines significant events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, demonstrating Kennedy's leadership and decision-making in a turbulent era.

**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): a state of political hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare, particularly the conflict between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

soviet union (proper noun): a former federal socialist state in northern Eurasia that existed from 1922 to 1991, comprising Russia and several other republics.

communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which all property is publicly owned.

space program (noun): a program aimed at the exploration of outer space.

relationships (noun): the way in which two or more people or groups regard and behave toward each other.

communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology that advocates for the elimination of private property and the establishment of a classless society.

bay of pigs (proper noun): a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by the CIA in April 1961.

communist (adjective): related to or characteristic of communism.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, especially in terms of weaponry.

advisers (noun): individuals who give advice, especially in a professional context.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did Kennedy's plans reflect the concerns of the United States during the Cold War?

A. They focused on domestic issues only.

B. They prioritized the advancement of civil rights solely.

C. They included strategies to counter Communism internationally.

D. They involved ending all military engagements abroad.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

2. What was one major consequence of the failed Bay of Pigs invasion?

A. Increased support for Communist governments in Latin America.

B. Strengthened relations between the U.S. and Soviet Union.

C. Immediate U.S. withdrawal from Cuban affairs.

D. A successful overthrow of the Cuban government.

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

3. How did the Cuban Missile Crisis impact international relations at the time?

A. It resulted in a peaceful resolution and disarmament.

B. It escalated tensions between the U.S. and Soviet Union.

C. It led to the dissolution of NATO.

D. It encouraged more countries to adopt Communism.

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

4. In what way did Kennedy’s response to the Cuban Missile Crisis demonstrate a shift in U.S. foreign policy?

A. He chose to ignore the Soviet threat altogether.

B. He took a strong and direct action to prevent a nuclear conflict.

C. He supported peace talks with the Soviet Union before any military action.

D. He abandoned military strategies in favor of diplomatic solutions.

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

5. What evidence from the text supports the idea that Kennedy was committed to counteracting Communist expansion?

A. Kennedy focused solely on domestic poverty.

B. He sent military advisers to support South Vietnam.

C. Kennedy implemented new civil rights policies.

D. He limited U.S. military presence abroad.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C)]