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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and challenges faced by President John F. Kennedy during his time in office through a detailed exploration of historical events and their implications. The text highlights significant initiatives such as civil rights improvements, the space race, and foreign policy decisions, including the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; civil rights; 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 period of political tension and military rivalry between the Western bloc and Eastern bloc after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federal socialist state in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology based on communal ownership of all property.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba undertaken by a CIA-sponsored paramilitary group.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned.

India (proper noun): a country in South Asia.

Vietnam (proper noun): a country in Southeast Asia on the easternmost part of the Indochinese Peninsula.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or the energy released in nuclear reactions.

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

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

showdown (noun): a decisive contest or confrontation.

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union in October 1962 over the presence of missile sites in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's plans when he became President of the United States in 1961?

A. To establish a military base in Cuba

B. To increase aid for people experiencing poverty

C. To start a war with the Soviet Union

D. To disengage from international relations

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

2. How did Kennedy's actions during the Cold War demonstrate the United States' stance against Communism?

A. By withdrawing military support from allied nations

B. By sending weapons to India during the Chinese invasion

C. By promoting trade with Soviet Union

D. By allowing Communist influences in Latin America

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

3. What event highlighted the tension between the US and Soviet Union during Kennedy's presidency?

A. The Bay of Pigs invasion

B. The establishment of NATO

C. The Cuban Missile Crisis

D. The signing of the Treaty of Versailles

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

4. What was the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis for Kennedy and the United States?

A. The US lost its nuclear arsenal

B. The Soviet Union agreed to remove its missiles from Cuba

C. The US Navy engaged in combat with Soviet ships

D. Cuba became a US territory

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

5. Why did Kennedy's administration train a group of Cubans before the Bay of Pigs invasion?

A. To support Cuba's communist leader

B. To promote democracy in Cuba

C. To prepare for a military alliance with the Soviet Union

D. To increase US influence in South America

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