**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 narrative that highlights significant historical events and policy decisions. The author uses factual language to convey Kennedy's initiatives in domestic policy, space exploration, and foreign relations amidst the backdrop of the Cold War.

**Tags:**

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

**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 geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a socialist state in Eurasia that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political ideology of communism.

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 undertaken by a CIA-sponsored paramilitary group in 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political ideology of communism.

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

weapons (noun): instruments used for attacking or defending.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political ideology of communism.

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

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political ideology of communism.

North Vietnam (proper noun): a state in Southeast Asia that existed from 1945 to 1976.

advisers (noun): people who provide advice, especially professionally.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often used to describe weapons or energy.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often used to describe weapons or energy.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or test.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did John F. Kennedy's administration respond to the spread of Communism during the Cold War?

A. By increasing military presence in Europe

B. By improving civil rights movements within the U.S.

C. By training Cuban exiles to invade Cuba

D. By launching a space program to reach the moon

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

2. What was the outcome of the Bay of Pigs invasion planned by Kennedy's administration?

A. It successfully overthrew Cuba's Communist leader

B. It marked a significant victory for the Soviet Union

C. It failed to achieve its objective

D. It led to a reduction in Cold War tensions

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

3. In what way did the Cuban Missile Crisis reflect the heightened tensions of the Cold War?

A. It resulted in the establishment of a lasting peace agreement

B. It demonstrated the potential for nuclear warfare between the U.S. and the Soviet Union

C. It led to an increase in civil rights protections within the U.S.

D. It expanded U.S. aid to India in their conflict with Communist China

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

4. Which event indicated that Kennedy's foreign policy was focused on containing Communism?

A. The establishment of a civil rights agenda

B. The invasion of Cuba by trained exiles

C. The Apollo moon landing

D. The withdrawal of troops from Vietnam

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

5. What was a significant consequence of the Cold War that is exemplified in Kennedy's actions during the early 1960s?

A. The global shift towards democracy

B. The allocation of resources towards military and space endeavors

C. Increased focus on domestic economic issues

D. Disengagement from international conflicts

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]