**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 John F. Kennedy during his presidency, using historical facts and significant events to illustrate his leadership decisions. The text covers topics such as civil rights, the space race, and key foreign policy actions, including the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; 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 state of political hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare

soviet union (proper noun): a former federation of communist republics in Eastern Europe and northern and central Asia

communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of communism

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 advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are owned communally

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

communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of communism

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

advisers (noun): persons who give advice, typically in a specific field or area of expertise

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest

cuban missile crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation in October 1962 between the United States and the Soviet Union concerning Soviet ballistic missiles deployed in Cuba

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of Kennedy's primary concerns regarding international relations during the Cold War?

A. Improving education in America

B. Stopping the spread of Communism

C. Increasing trade with the Soviet Union

D. Building alliances with European countries

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

2. How did the Cold War influence the U.S. space program during Kennedy's presidency?

A. It caused a decline in funding for space exploration

B. It led to a cooperative space program with the Soviet Union

C. It motivated the U.S. to land a person on the moon before the Soviets

D. It resulted in a focus on military technology over civilian space projects

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

3. Which event is associated with Kennedy's strategy to confront the Soviet Union during the Cold War?

A. The assassination of Kennedy

B. The Bay of Pigs invasion

C. The signing of the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

D. The launch of Sputnik I

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

4. What was the outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis as detailed in the article?

A. The U.S. launched a military attack on Cuba

B. The Soviet Union established more missile bases in Latin America

C. Kennedy's firm stance led to the Soviet ships retreating

D. A peace treaty was signed between the U.S. and Cuba

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

5. What inference can be made about Kennedy's approach to foreign policy during the Cold War based on the article?

A. He preferred isolationism over intervention

B. He aimed to promote democracy and counteract Communist influence

C. He focused on building relationships only with European allies

D. He believed in negotiating with Communist leaders to avoid conflict

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