**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 factual recounting of historical events and decisions. The text outlines Kennedy's initiatives related to civil rights, the space program, and foreign relations amid the Cold War, highlighting significant events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and 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): the period of geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of Communism

relationships (noun): the ways 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 invasion of Cuba by a CIA-led force of Cuban exiles in 1961

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of Communism

Cuba (proper noun): a country located in the Caribbean

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of Communism

North Vietnam (proper noun): the northern region of Vietnam, which was a communist state during the Vietnam War

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest

Missile (noun): a weapon that is self-propelled and guided to hit a target

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's key plans upon taking office in 1961?

A. To establish peace treaties with the Soviet Union

B. To improve civil rights and aid for the impoverished

C. To expand the US military presence in Europe

D. To reduce the federal budget significantly

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

2. How did the Cold War influence Kennedy's actions regarding Cuba?

A. He ignored the rise of Communism in Cuba

B. He supported the peaceful integration of Cuba into America

C. He trained a group of Cubans to overthrow the Communist leader

D. He immediately recognized Cuba's Communist government

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

3. What significant confrontation occurred in October 1962 involving the Soviet Union?

A. The Bay of Pigs Invasion

B. The Cuban Missile Crisis

C. The establishment of the Berlin Wall

D. The start of the Vietnam War

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

4. Which strategy did Kennedy employ to prevent Soviet ships from delivering supplies to Cuba?

A. Initiating ground troops in Cuba

B. Negotiating a peace treaty with the Soviet Union

C. Blockading Cuba's coast with the US Navy

D. Allowing Soviet access to Cuba for trade

[CCSS.RI.3.1; BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

5. What inference can be made about Kennedy's relationship with India during the Cold War?

A. He ignored India's requests for military assistance

B. He sought to strengthen ties by sending military aid against China

C. He was primarily focused on European countries

D. He ended military support to maintain neutrality in the region

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