**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 President John F. Kennedy during his time in office, emphasizing his domestic and foreign policies through factual language choices. The text covers important events, such as the Cold War, the space race, and the Cuban Missile Crisis, highlighting Kennedy's leadership and decision-making.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; space program; Cuban Missile Crisis; 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): the state of political hostility that existed between the Soviet bloc and the Western powers from the end of World War II until the dissolution of the Soviet Union.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to the political ideology of communism; often refers to countries or parties that advocate for communist principles.

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.

overthrow (verb): to remove from power, often by force.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed military invasion of Cuba undertaken by a CIA-sponsored paramilitary group in 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to communism; often used to describe the political regime of countries such as China or the Soviet Union.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom; used in the context of weapons or energy derived from nuclear reactions.

coast (noun): the land next to the sea.

nuclear (adjective): relating to nuclear energy or weapons.

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 over nuclear missiles placed in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy’s major goals during his presidency as it related to the Cold War?

A. To establish diplomatic relations with the Soviet Union.

B. To put a person on the moon before the Soviet Union did.

C. To expand the US territory.

D. To eliminate the threat of nuclear weapons entirely.

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

2. How did the failure at the Bay of Pigs reflect America’s strategy in the Cold War?

A. It showed the US's commitment to directly engage in military conflicts.

B. It highlighted the ineffectiveness of US intelligence.

C. It demonstrated the risks involved in attempted regime changes.

D. It revealed the superiority of the Soviet military.

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

3. What inference can be drawn about Kennedy's approach to international relations during the Cold War based on the article?

A. He preferred isolationism over intervention.

B. He sought to contain the spread of Communism through military assistance.

C. He had no clear strategy regarding Communism.

D. He focused solely on domestic policy without regard for foreign threats.

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

4. Which event marked a significant confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union during Kennedy's presidency?

A. The invasion of India by Communist China.

B. The Bay of Pigs invasion.

C. The Cuban Missile Crisis.

D. The establishment of NASA.

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

5. What action did Kennedy take in response to the construction of nuclear missile bases in Cuba?

A. He supported a diplomatic resolution.

B. He ordered a naval blockade around Cuba.

C. He initiated a military strike on Cuba.

D. He withdrew all US military advisers from Vietnam.

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