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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes John F. Kennedy's presidency and his various plans through detailed historical accounts and contextual analysis. The text covers his initiatives related to civil rights, the space program, foreign relations during the Cold War, and significant events like 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): a state of political hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare.

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

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology and movement that advocates for a classless system.

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 society in which all property is publicly owned.

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a small inlet located on the southern coast of Cuba.

China (proper noun): a country in East Asia.

South Vietnam (proper noun): a former country that existed from 1955 until 1975, located in Southeast Asia.

North Vietnam (proper noun): the communist-led government in northern Vietnam that existed during the Vietnam War.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or a weapon derived from nuclear reactions.

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

showdown (noun): a final confrontation or contest.

Missile (noun): a weapon that is self-propelled and guided, capable of carrying an explosive payload to a predetermined target.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did John F. Kennedy's handling of the Cuban Missile Crisis influence international relations during the Cold War?

A. It escalated tensions between the United States and China.

B. It led to a peaceful agreement with the Soviet Union.

C. It increased military support for South Vietnam.

D. It marked a significant crisis that tested US-Soviet relations.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1; CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

2. Which action taken by Kennedy was directly aimed at preventing the spread of Communism?

A. Landing a man on the moon

B. Training Cubans to overthrow their government

C. Sending military advisers to South Vietnam

D. Blockading Soviet ships in the Caribbean

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

3. What was a key consequence of President Kennedy's approach towards the Soviet Union during the Cold War?

A. Improved relations with China

B. A successful invasion of Cuba

C. The Cuban Missile Crisis

D. An end to the Cold War

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1; CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]

4. How did Kennedy's actions in response to the Bay of Pigs invasion reflect the United States' foreign policy during the Cold War?

A. They showed a commitment to military interventions.

B. They indicated a retreat from international conflicts.

C. They demonstrated cooperation with the Soviet Union.

D. They suggested a focus on domestic issues over foreign affairs.

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

5. In what way did the Cold War shape Kennedy's goals for the United States as President?

A. It prompted an emphasis on civil rights legislation.

B. It necessitated international military engagements.

C. It shifted focus towards economic recovery.

D. It reduced the need for a space program.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1; CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C)]