**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, including domestic initiatives and foreign policy challenges, using factual and descriptive language. The text outlines Kennedy's goals related to civil rights, the space race, and Cold War tensions, culminating in the significant event of 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, particularly the geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federal union of communist republics established in 1922; the USSR was a dominant political and military force in the 20th century.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system and common ownership of the means of production.

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 where all property is publicly owned and each person works and is paid according to their abilities and needs.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba by U.S.-backed paramilitary group in April 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system and common ownership of the means of production.

weapons (noun): tools or instruments used for combat or defense.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom; often associated with nuclear energy or weaponry.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system and common ownership of the means of production.

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advisers (noun): people who give advice, typically in a specific field or profession.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom; often associated with nuclear energy or weaponry.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. How did Kennedy's presidency illustrate the impact of the Cold War on U.S. foreign policy?

A. By focusing primarily on economic reforms domestically

B. By prioritizing space exploration over military engagement

C. By actively trying to contain the spread of Communism

D. By avoiding direct military involvement in foreign conflicts

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

2. What was one of Kennedy's goals regarding the Soviet Union during his presidency?

A. To establish a peaceful coexistence with communist countries

B. To prevent the Soviet Union from eclipsing the U.S. in space exploration

C. To increase trade relations with the Soviet Union

D. To reduce military spending on defense

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

3. What major event is associated with Kennedy's administration that escalated Cold War tensions?

A. The end of the Vietnam War

B. The Bay of Pigs invasion

C. The signing of a peace treaty with China

D. The establishment of the United Nations

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

4. How was the U.S. response to the Cuban Missile Crisis significant in the context of Cold War dynamics?

A. It led to a series of peaceful negotiations and disarmament talks.

B. It demonstrated the willingness to engage militarily, thus escalating tensions.

C. It resulted in a total withdrawal of U.S. military forces from foreign engagements.

D. It led to collaboration between the U.S. and Soviet Union in space exploration.

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

5. In what way did Kennedy's foreign policy actions reflect the global struggle between democracy and communism during the Cold War?

A. By supporting all forms of government around the world equally

B. By committing to protect nations resisting Communism

C. By promoting disarmament initiatives without exception

D. By eliminating military assistance to any country advocating for democracy

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