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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the presidency of John F. Kennedy and his various plans to address issues such as poverty, civil rights, and the Cold War. Through the use of factual language, the author outlines key events of Kennedy's administration, including the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis.

**Tags:**

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

communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which all property is communally owned.

communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology promoting the establishment of a classless society.

cuba (proper noun): an island country in the Caribbean.

communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which all property is communally owned.

communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which all property is communally owned.

nuclear (adjective): relating to, held by, or using nuclear energy or weapons.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance in a particular field.

nuclear (adjective): relating to, held by, or using nuclear energy or weapons.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest.

missile crisis (proper noun): the 1962 confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union over missiles in Cuba.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's main goals when he became President of the United States during the Cold War?

A. To abolish the space program

B. To improve civil rights and combat poverty

C. To increase trade with the Soviet Union

D. To eliminate the US Navy

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

2. Which event is associated with John F. Kennedy's efforts to contain Communism during his presidency?

A. The Apollo 11 moon landing

B. The civil rights movement

C. The Bay of Pigs invasion

D. The signing of the Geneva Conventions

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

3. How did the Cuban Missile Crisis illustrate the tensions of the Cold War?

A. It led to an increase in civil rights in America.

B. It was a peaceful resolution among world leaders.

C. It brought the US and the Soviet Union to the brink of nuclear war.

D. It resulted in the immediate end of the Cold War.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

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

A. He decided to negotiate with Fidel Castro.

B. He sent an army to invade Cuba.

C. He implemented a naval blockade around Cuba.

D. He called for a vote in Congress regarding military action.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]

5. What was one consequence of the Cold War as shown by Kennedy's policies and actions?

A. A unified Europe without military conflicts

B. Increased U.S. involvement in foreign conflicts to contain Communism

C. The immediate end of all military spending

D. Cooperation between the U.S. and the Soviet Union in space exploration

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C)]