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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the plans and challenges faced by John F. Kennedy during his presidency through a series of historical events and their implications for the United States. The text outlines Kennedy's domestic initiatives and foreign policy strategies, including key moments 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 state of political tension and military rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of communist republics occupying the eastern half of Europe and northern Asia.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or advocating a political theory characterized by communal ownership of property.

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 forcibly from power.

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

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

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or advocating a political theory characterized by communal ownership of property.

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

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

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's plans that directly related to the Cold War?

A. To create a national healthcare system

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

C. To establish a trade agreement with China

D. To negotiate a peace treaty with North Vietnam

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

2. How did the US respond to the potential threat of Communism growing in Cuba?

A. By sending military forces to invade Cuba directly

B. By training a group of Cubans to overthrow their leader

C. By establishing diplomatic relations with Cuba

D. By ignoring the situation and focusing on domestic issues

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

3. What event exemplified the heightened tensions between the US and Soviet Union during the Cold War as described in the text?

A. The launch of the first human to the moon

B. The Cuban Missile Crisis

C. The Bay of Pigs Invasion

D. The invasion of India by Communist China

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

4. What evidence from the text supports the idea that Kennedy was committed to stopping the spread of Communism?

A. He aimed to improve civil rights in America

B. He sent weapons to India to counter Communist aggression

C. He focused on domestic economic reforms first

D. He planned for space exploration without regard to international relations

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

5. Which action did Kennedy take during the Cuban Missile Crisis that demonstrated his willingness to confront the Soviet Union?

A. He ordered an immediate military attack on Cuba

B. He implemented a naval blockade around Cuba

C. He proposed a peace summit with Soviet leaders

D. He withdrew all US military advisers from Vietnam

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