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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and actions taken by President John F. Kennedy during his time in office, highlighting his domestic initiatives and foreign policy challenges through clear and factual language. The text elaborates on significant events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, illustrating the complexities of the Cold War era.

**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 republic in eastern Europe and northern Asia.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology based on communal ownership and the absence of social classes.

space (noun): the physical universe beyond the earth's atmosphere.

relationships (noun): the ways 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.

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles sponsored by the U.S. government in April 1961.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology based on communal ownership and the absence of social classes (repeated entry from above).

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

India (proper noun): a country in South Asia.

weapons (noun): tools or devices used for causing harm or damage, especially in warfare.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or denoting a political ideology based on communal ownership and the absence of social classes (repeated entry from above).

North Vietnam (proper noun): the communist state in the northern part of Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance, especially in a professional context.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom, often used in the context of nuclear weapons or energy.

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 13-day confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union in October 1962 over the installation of nuclear-armed Soviet missiles in Cuba.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or dispute.

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's main goals regarding space during the Cold War?

A. To establish a permanent military base on the moon

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

C. To send robotic missions to Mars

D. To develop a space defense system against the Soviets

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

2. How did the United States attempt to address the spread of Communism in Cuba?

A. By launching a direct military invasion

B. By training a group of Cubans to overthrow the government

C. By negotiating peace treaties with Soviet leaders

D. By providing financial assistance to the Cuban government

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

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

A. He sent diplomats to negotiate with Soviet leaders

B. He ordered a blockade of Cuba to prevent more supplies

C. He initiated a nuclear attack on Cuba

D. He withdrew all military advisors from the region

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

4. Which event is referred to as the "Cuban Missile Crisis"?

A. The failed invasion of Cuba at the Bay of Pigs

B. The construction of nuclear missile bases in Cuba

C. The conflict between North and South Vietnam

D. The space race to the moon

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

5. What was a significant outcome of the Cold War on the relationships between the USA and other countries?

A. Improved trade relations with all nations

B. Increased military involvement in foreign conflicts

C. Strengthened alliances with Communist countries

D. Reduced tension with the Soviet Union

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