**Lesson Plan - ARP\_MakingPlans\_G3-5 - 10/23/2024**

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the pivotal plans and actions of President John F. Kennedy during his administration, focusing on domestic initiatives, international relations, and the Cold War context. Through detailed accounts of events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, the author conveys Kennedy's strategic decisions and their implications.

**Tags:**

John F. Kennedy; Cold War; Cuban Missile Crisis; US 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:**

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's key plans regarding the space race during the Cold War?

A. To increase military presence in Europe

B. To send a person to the moon before the Soviet Union

C. To strengthen trade relations with Communist countries

D. To establish a United Nations peacekeeping mission

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

2. How did the Cold War influence U.S. foreign policy in Latin America?

A. The U.S. sought to promote trade with Communist nations

B. The U.S. supported a Cuban invasion to help Communist leaders

C. The U.S. trained Cubans to overthrow their Communist leader

D. The U.S. engaged in direct military intervention in all Latin American countries

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

3. What was a major international event during the Cold War that escalated tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union?

A. The invasion of Europe in World War II

B. The Cuban Missile Crisis

C. The founding of the United Nations

D. The signing of the Treaty of Versailles

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

4. In response to Communist aggression in other countries, what action did Kennedy take concerning South Vietnam?

A. He withdrew all military advisers

B. He sent vaccines and aid to the population

C. He sent thousands of U.S. military advisers to support the South

D. He called for a cease-fire between North and South Vietnam

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

5. What was the result of Kennedy's decision to block Cuba's coast during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

A. A nuclear war broke out between the U.S. and the Soviet Union

B. The Soviet ships stayed away from the blocked area

C. The United States launched missiles at Cuba

D. Kennedy changed his policy on Communism

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