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

**Summary:**

* In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the significant plans and actions of John F. Kennedy during his presidency, detailing his efforts in domestic policy, foreign relations, and the space race through straightforward and factual language choices. The text highlights key events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, emphasizing Kennedy's strategic decisions in a time of national and global tension.

**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): the period of political tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of communist republics in Eastern Europe and Northern Asia

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or based on the principles of communism

space program (noun): a research and development program to create technology for the exploration of outer space

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power

Cuba (proper noun): a country in the Caribbean

Vietnamese (proper adjective): relating to Vietnam or its people

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom; involving weapons derived from nuclear reactions

missile (noun): a self-propelled weapon that is still guided and has a target

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest

Cuban Missile Crisis (proper noun): a 1962 confrontation between the United States and the Soviet Union over Soviet missiles in Cuba

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of Kennedy's goals during his presidency that directly related to the Cold War?

A. To increase civil rights

B. To reduce military spending

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

D. To negotiate peace with Cuba

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

2. Which event highlighted the tensions between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War?

A. The Bay of Pigs invasion

B. The establishment of NATO

C. The Marshall Plan

D. The signing of the Treaty of Versailles

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

3. How did Kennedy respond to the threat of nuclear missiles in Cuba?

A. He ignored the situation

B. He sent troops to Cuba

C. He blockaded Cuba's coast

D. He immediately attacked the missile sites

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

4. What was the outcome of the Bay of Pigs invasion?

A. It successfully overthrew Castro's regime

B. It resulted in a significant diplomatic victory for the US

C. It was a failed attempt to overthrow the Communist government

D. It strengthened US relations with the Soviet Union

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

5. In what way did the Cold War influence the United States' foreign policy under Kennedy?

A. They focused solely on economic reforms

B. They aimed to contain the spread of Communism globally

C. They sought to establish better relations with the Soviet Union

D. They withdrew from foreign conflicts entirely

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