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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes John F. Kennedy's presidential plans and actions during his time in office, highlighting his initiatives in social programs, civil rights, and foreign policy through a chronological narrative. The text details critical events such as the Bay of Pigs invasion and the Cuban Missile Crisis, illustrating Kennedy's strategies in both domestic and international arenas.

**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): a state of political hostility between countries characterized by threats, propaganda, and other measures short of open warfare.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of Communist republics in eastern Europe and northern Asia.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of communism.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology advocating for class war and leading to a society in which all property is publicly owned.

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

Communist (proper adjective): relating to or characteristic of communism.

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North Vietnam (proper noun): the northern part of Vietnam, officially known as the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, which was governed by communists from 1945 until the end of the Vietnam War in 1975.

South Vietnam (proper noun): the southern part of Vietnam, officially known as the Republic of Vietnam, which existed from 1955 until 1975.

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

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showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or contest.

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

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of John F. Kennedy's major goals during his presidency regarding the Cold War?

A. To eliminate poverty in the United States

B. To enhance American civil rights

C. To win the race to the moon against the Soviet Union

D. To engage in a military confrontation with the Soviet Union

[CCSS.RI.5.1; TEKS.ELAR.5.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

2. What was the purpose of training Cubans to overthrow their leader during Kennedy's presidency?

A. To establish a democratic government in Cuba

B. To stop the spread of Communism

C. To improve relations with the Soviet Union

D. To increase American tourism in Cuba

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

3. During the Cuban Missile Crisis, what action did President Kennedy take to address the potential threat of nuclear missiles in Cuba?

A. He launched an airstrike against Cuba

B. He initiated a naval blockade of Cuba

C. He called for immediate peace talks with the Soviet Union

D. He sent more troops to South Vietnam

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

4. How did the failure of the Bay of Pigs invasion impact U.S. relations with Cuba and the Soviet Union?

A. It strengthened U.S. ties with the Soviet Union

B. It escalated the Cold War tensions between the U.S. and Soviet Union

C. It led to the unification of Cuba and the United States

D. It resulted in greater American support for communism in Cuba

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

5. Why did Kennedy send weapons to India during the conflict with Communist China?

A. To promote democracy in Asia

B. To contain the spread of Communism in the region

C. To fulfill an alliance with India

D. To prepare for a potential war with the Soviet Union

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