**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 President John F. Kennedy during his time in office, highlighting his initiatives in civil rights, space exploration, and foreign relations through a detailed recounting of historical events.

**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 geopolitical tension between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned

space program (noun): a program that involves the exploration of outer space

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 that seeks to establish a classless society

overthrow (verb): to remove forcibly from power

Bay of Pigs (proper noun): a failed invasion of Cuba by a CIA-sponsored paramilitary group in 1961

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned

weapons (noun): tools or instruments used in combat or warfare

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless system in which the means of production are communally owned

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

coast (noun): the part of the land adjoining or near the ocean

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

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 Soviet ballistic missiles deployed in Cuba

**Multiple Choice Questions:**

1. What was one of President Kennedy's major goals during the Cold War?

A. To improve civil rights only

B. To increase agricultural production

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

D. To eliminate all military forces in Europe

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

2. How did Kennedy's actions in Cuba reflect the United States' approach to the spread of Communism?

A. He supported the Communist leader in Cuba.

B. He ignored the situation and focused solely on domestic issues.

C. He trained Cubans to overthrow the Communist government.

D. He offered economic aid to the Soviet Union.

[CCSS.RI.3.1; TEKS.ELAR.3.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1]

3. What was a significant outcome of the Cuban Missile Crisis for Kennedy and the United States?

A. It resulted in the establishment of communist government in Cuba.

B. Kennedy lost support from military leaders.

C. The US Navy successfully prevented Soviet ships from reaching Cuba.

D. The Soviet Union won the confrontation with the US.

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]

4. What event did Kennedy respond to by sending weapons to India?

A. The Bay of Pigs invasion

B. The Cuban Missile Crisis

C. The invasion of India by Communist China

D. The assassination of a foreign leader

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); CCSS.RI.5.1]

5. Which of the following actions signified the United States' commitment to opposing Communism in Southeast Asia?

A. Sending military advisers to South Vietnam

B. Cutting all diplomatic ties with North Vietnam

C. Negotiating peace treaties with the Soviet Union

D. Establishing trade relations with China

[CCSS.RI.4.1; TEKS.ELAR.4.7(C); BEST.ELA.K12.EE.3.1]