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

**Summary:**

In this informational e-book, Megan M. Gunderson describes the key plans and challenges faced by John F. Kennedy during his presidency through a factual recounting of historical events and decisions. The text highlights Kennedy's initiatives in domestic policies, space exploration, and international relations amid the Cold War context.

**Tags:**

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 period of political tension and military rivalry between the Soviet Union and the United States after World War II.

Soviet Union (proper noun): a former federation of communist republics that existed from 1922 to 1991.

Communist (proper adjective): relating to a political ideology advocating for a classless society and the abolition of private property.

space program (noun): a program that conducts space exploration and research activities.

Communism (proper noun): a political and economic ideology that advocates for communal ownership of resources and means of production.

Cubans (proper noun): the people of Cuba.

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

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

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

advisers (noun): individuals who provide advice or guidance in a specific area.

nuclear (adjective): relating to the nucleus of an atom or the use of nuclear energy, especially in weapons.

showdown (noun): a decisive confrontation or conflict.

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 John F. Kennedy's goals during the Cold War?

A. To establish a one-world government

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

C. To create alliances with Communist countries

D. To abolish the US military

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

2. What significant event in 1961 aimed to prevent the spread of Communism in Cuba?

A. The establishment of the United Nations

B. The invasion at the Bay of Pigs

C. The Space Race

D. The Cuban Missile Crisis

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

3. How did Kennedy respond to the Soviet Union's actions during the Cuban Missile Crisis?

A. He ignored the situation and focused on domestic policies.

B. He sent troops to invade Cuba.

C. He blockaded Cuba to prevent Soviet shipments.

D. He immediately offered to negotiate with the Soviet leader.

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

4. What impact did the Cold War have on US foreign policy during Kennedy's presidency?

A. It encouraged peaceful coexistence with Communist countries.

B. It led to increased military intervention in foreign conflicts.

C. It focused solely on economic issues.

D. It reduced the importance of space exploration.

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

5. In what way did the Cold War influence Kennedy's approach to international relations?

A. He prioritized negotiations with European allies.

B. He aimed to expand Communism globally.

C. He sought to contain and combat the spread of Communism.

D. He avoided involvement in global conflicts.

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