



CAPTURING KENNEDY JIGSAW LESSON PLAN

Rationale

This cooperative learning strategy will enable each student to specialize in one aspect in the life of John F Kennedy. Students will meet as a group to research their topic, then once they have mastered the material, will teach their topic to a new group of students. With this strategy, each student serves as a piece of the puzzle and when they work together, they create the entire jigsaw puzzle.

Materials

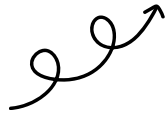
JFK Video 1:30

JFK Video 5:11

JFK Fast Fact Sheet

Kennedy Research Organizer

Kennedy Graphic Organizer



Objectives

Students will be able to:

- teach their peers about their topic
- work cooperatively in a group
- improve their listening, communication, and problem-solving skills.

Instruction

- Introduce the topic, John F. Kennedy. Two video options are available—one is 1:30, the other is 5:11, or use the provided “JFK Fast Facts” sheet.
- Introduce the jigsaw strategy (See Rationale).
- Assign each student to a group of 3-5 students and a topic from the attached list.
- Hand out the research organizer to help students organize their information. Let students know that certain questions may not apply to their topic. Provide materials and resources for all students to learn about their topics and become “experts.”
- Once the research is complete, one expert from each group will be taken to create new groups. Students will teach their new group members about their topic so that everyone can learn about all aspects of JFK. Remind students that group members are responsible for learning all content from one another. They should practice focused listening skills and take careful notes.
- Hand out the graphic organizer to each student as a guide for organizing the experts’ information. Experts share their information.



Options

- Have each student do their own research and complete the graphic organizer.
- Have each group present their topic to the whole class instead of small groups.



Assessment

Have each student write a paragraph or essay about JFK using the information they gathered from their own research and what they learned from their classmates.



Possible Topics

*Choose/combine/split these topics as needed
to meet the number of students in your class.*

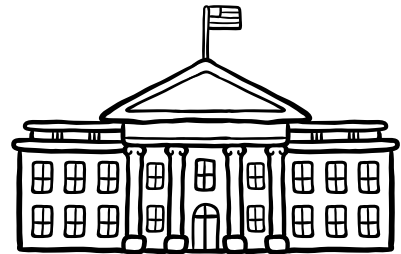


Early life

*Family Background
Education
Military Service
Congress*

Presidency

*The Campaign
Peace Corps
Alliance for Progress
Space Race
Civil Rights*



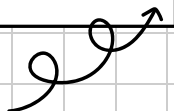
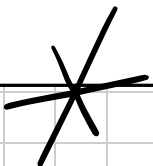
Foreign Policy Challenges

*Bay of Pigs
Berlin Wall Crisis
Cuban Missile Crisis*



Legacy

Assassination



JFK Fast Facts

Name: John Fitzgerald Kennedy

Nicknames: Jack, JFK

Born: May 29, 1917, in Brookline, Massachusetts

Married: Jacqueline Bouvier on September 12, 1953

Children: Caroline, 1957; John, Jr, 1960; Patrick, 1963 (died at two days old)

House of Representatives: 1947-1953

US Senate: 1953-1960

Presidency: January 20, 1961 - November 22, 1963

Vice President: Lyndon B Johnson

Political Party: Democrat

Died: November 22, 1963, in Dallas, Texas



- JFK was a war hero: His boat, PT-109, was destroyed by a Japanese warship in 1943 while he was serving in the US Navy during WWII. He swam with other crew members to safety several miles away while carrying one injured soldier by holding the man's life jacket strap in his teeth. Kennedy was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Medal.
- Kennedy was awarded the 1957 Pulitzer Prize for his book Profiles in Courage, which shared the stories of US Senators who showed extraordinary courage under pressure.
- Kennedy was the youngest person elected President of the United States when he defeated Richard Nixon in 1960. He is also the first Catholic president.
- The Cold War dominated his presidency. The three significant events were the Bay of Pigs Invasion (the attempted overthrow of Cuba's leader, Fidel Castro), the building of the Berlin Wall, and the Cuban Missile Crisis, a dangerous escalation of tensions that nearly led to nuclear conflict.
- Kennedy was a strong advocate for civil rights in the US.
- As president, Kennedy established the Peace Corps in 1961 to promote world peace through service.
- Kennedy publicly declared a national goal to land a man on the moon before the decade's end. This challenge led to the successful moon landing in 1969.
- Sadly, JFK was assassinated during a trip to Dallas, Texas, on November 22, 1963. He is buried at Arlington National Cemetery along with his wife and two of their children.

Kennedy Research Organizer

Directions: As you research your topic about John F Kennedy, fill in the following boxes. Some of the questions may not quite apply to your topic, so adjust as needed.

Topic:

Who? Who was involved? Who was affected?

What? What happened? What was the main event?

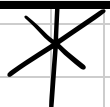
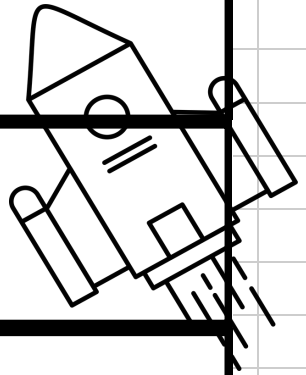
Where? Where was/were the place(s) it took place?

When? When did it happen? How long of a time period was it?

Why? Why did it happen? What caused it?

Why? Why was it important? What were the outcomes?

Put it all together!



Kennedy Graphic Organizer

Directions: As you learn about John F Kennedy from your classmates, fill in the boxes below.

Date of birth:

Date of death:

Cause of death:

Education:

Years of Presidency:



Describe Kennedy's childhood and family life:

Political Offices Held

Interesting Facts

Notable Successes of his Presidency

Notable Difficulties of his Presidency

What is Kennedy's Legacy?

The Assassination

*Thank you for choosing
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