The Magic Pouch

There was a little girl who lived near a tall mountain. The mountain was so tall that the top was always in the clouds. The girl wanted to go to the top of the mountain, but her mother told her, “No”. She said, “That mountain is steep. You would find it very hard to get to the top.”

But one day the little girl was sitting and looking at the mountain. She said to herself, “I would like to see what is in those clouds at the top of the mountain. I think I will go up and see.”
Procedure for Administration of Placement Test

Use the following procedures to administer the Placement Test:

1. Make a copy of the placement test for you and the student.
2. Give the student a copy of the story.
3. Point to the passage and say, “I want you to read this story out loud. Take your time. Start with the title and read the story as well as you can.”
4. Time the student and make one tally mark for each error. Use the following guidelines when tallying errors.
   - If the student misreads a word, tell the student the word and mark one error.
   - If the student reads a word incorrectly and then correctly, mark one error.
   - If the student sounds out a word instead of reading it normally, mark one error. (Note: The first time the student sounds out a word but does not supply the whole word, ask the student, “What word is that?” If the student reads the word correctly, do not mark an error. If the student sounds out the word again, mark an error. Do not prompt the student on any subsequent sounding-outs.)
   - If the student does not identify a word within four seconds, tell the student the word and mark one error.
   - If the student skips a word, point to the word. If the student does not read the word correctly, mark one error.
   - If the student skips a line, point to the line. If the student does not read the line correctly, mark one error.
5. When the student finishes reading the passage, note the exact time that it took the student to complete the passage.
6. Total the student’s errors.
7. Record total time to read the passage and number of errors at the top of the page.

Placement Guidelines

Place your students as follows:

- Students who made 0 to 6 errors and read the passage within two minutes should be placed in Lesson 1 of Reading Mastery Plus Level 2.
- Students who made 0 to 6 errors and read between 2:00 and 2:30 should be placed in Lesson 106 of Reading Mastery Plus Level 1.
- Students who made more than 6 errors and/or read over 2:30 should be placed in Reading Mastery Plus Level 1. It is recommended that the students be given the Reading Mastery Plus Level 1 placement test to determine the starting lesson.
- Students who made 0 to 1 errors and read the passage in 45 seconds or less, should be given the placement test for RM Plus Level 3 to see if they qualify to begin at this level.