

This module describes the Math-U-See curriculum's placement process. The module also includes the Class Placement Test Data form for recording scores and observations made during testing.

Overview

The placement process provides teachers with the means to assess a student's capabilities in basic computation and to determine the best entry level for the student in the curriculum. Additionally, a baseline is established to support progress monitoring.

How to Administer

The placement process should begin with the Placement Pretest. This starting point may seem unnecessary for every student, especially for those in upper elementary grades; however, careful observation of placement test-taking often reveals the specific foundational difficulties a student is having. A student should already meet the prerequisites for *Alpha* before taking the Placement Pretest.

Prerequisites for Placement Pretest

Students must:

- » Demonstrate 1–1 correspondence
- » Demonstrate number recognition
- » Be able to count verbally zero to nine
- » Be able to write numerals zero to nine
- » Be ready for formal instruction

Students who do not demonstrate the *Alpha* prerequisites may be placed in the program's first level, entitled *Primer*. The *Primer* level is not recommended for students who do not demonstrate readiness for paper and pencil work. Also, *Primer* was not designed to include written assessment materials.

The Placement Pretest contains a few questions from each level, *Alpha* through *Zeta*. Once the student has missed two or more problems for any one level, the Placement Pretest should be stopped. The level-specific placement test for that level should then be administered.

Placement Results

- » A score between 80% and 89% on the level-specific placement test indicates that the student has mastered the material contained in that level and should be placed in the next level.
- » A score between 0% and 79% on the level-specific placement test indicates the student has not yet mastered the material contained in that level and should be placed in that level.
- » If the student scores between 90% and 100% on the level-specific placement test, the placement test for the subsequent level should be administered.