

Have not found appropriate free cloud platform.  
Focus on the Amazon EC2 and S3, which will be much representative.

EC2 = Elastic Compute Cloud  
S3 = Simple Storage Service

Some key notes.

1. EC2 should work with support of S3.
2. The virtual server service scheme we have talked is much like or the same as EC2.
3. AMI, which can be thought as the image of the software packages including OS. (Can be customized)
4. Instance Type, which can be thought as the hardware of the server(limited kinds but relative complete for users)
5. Users will have complete control of the virtual servers as a root.
6. Users can indicate where to deploy the new instances.(Transfer between available zones will be much cheaper)
7. Virtual servers have public IP address(DNS) and internal address to locate.
8. Gather the pricing of Amazon, as a reference for simulation maybe.