

**Transform** means to change.

**Transformations** change the basic quadratic function,  $y = x^2$ , into other quadratic functions by:

- 1) Moving (or translating) the graph
- 2) Flipping (or reflecting) the graph
- 3) Stretching or shrinking (or dilating) the graph

### Moving or Translating the Graph

$f(x) = x^2 + k \quad \Rightarrow$  the graph is **vertically translated** by  $k$  units.

If  $k > 0$ , the graph moves UP  $k$  units.

If  $k < 0$ , the graph moves DOWN  $k$  units.

$f(x) = (x \pm h)^2 \quad \Rightarrow$  the graph is **horizontally translated** by  $h$  units.

$(x - h)$  means the graph moves to the RIGHT  $h$  units.

$(x + h)$  means the graph moves to the LEFT  $h$  units.

### Flipping or Reflecting the Graph

$f(x) = x^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f(x) = -x^2$

The graph is reflected over the X-AXIS.

The parabola looks like it is flipped upside down.

$f(x) = x^2 \quad \Rightarrow \quad f(-x) = (-x)^2$

The graph is reflected over the Y-AXIS.

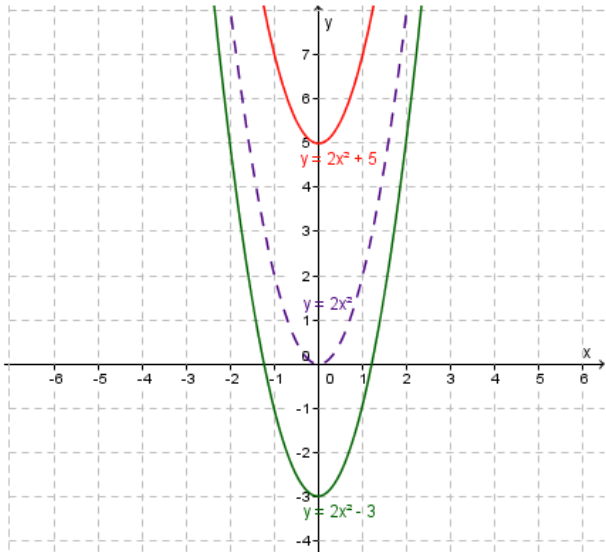
It produces the same graph as  $f(x) = x^2$ . The function does not change since squared values are always positive.

### Dilating the Graph

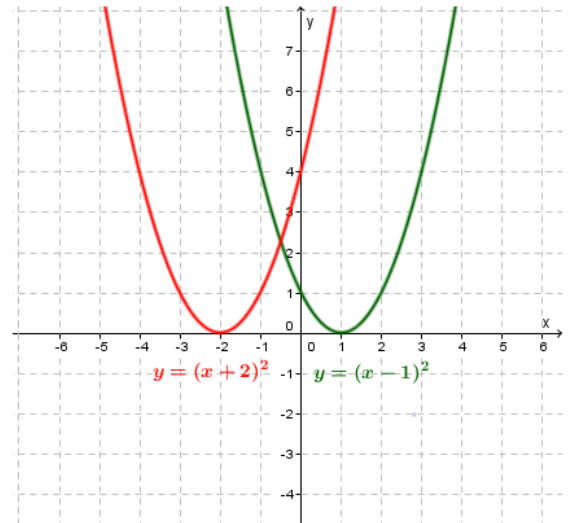
$f(x) = ax^2 \quad \Rightarrow$  the graph is **dilated vertically** by a factor of  $a$ .

If  $a > 1$ , the graph is stretched or becomes narrower by a dilation factor of  $a$ .

If  $0 < a < 1$ , the graph is shrunk or becomes wider by a dilation factor of  $a$ .

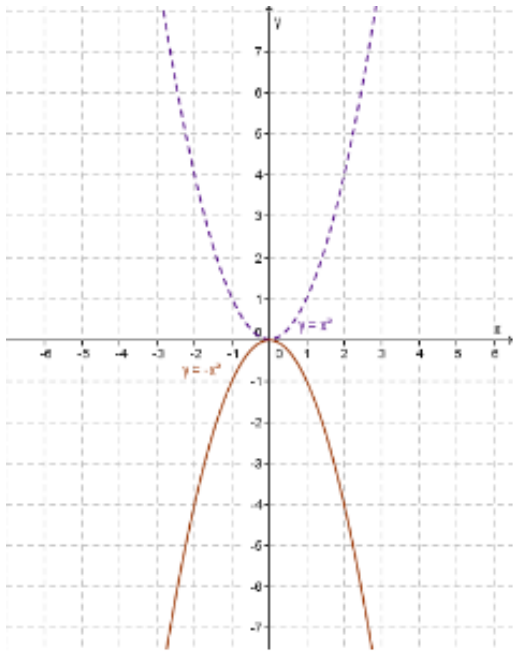


Vertical translation.



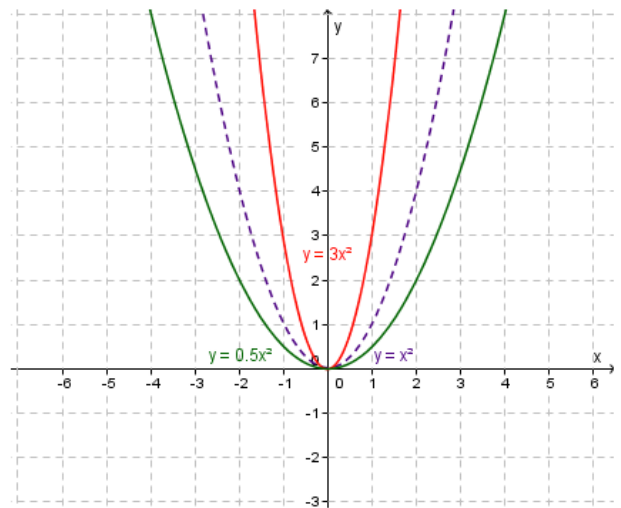
The graph  $y = x^2$  being horizontally translated 2 units left

to  $y = (x + 2)^2$  and 1 unit right to  $y = (x - 1)^2$



Shows the reflection of

$$y = x^2 \text{ to } y = -x^2$$



Dilation of  $y = x^2$  to  $y = 3x^2$  and  $y = \frac{1}{2}x^2$