

Live Quadratic Graphs

Description

Students are asked to stand and create a parabola with their arms. This quick activity helps students connect the parameters of $y = a(x - h)^2 + k$ with the characteristics of the graph. This is a physical activity so some students will be hesitant but they do get good connections out of it. Use the activity as a review of quadratic graphs using vertex form.

Prep Work

None

Instructions

○ Pre Activity

None

○ Activity

Have the class stand and put their arms out to form a parabola. Then describe how you want them to change the parabola.

- a positive, small, larger
- a negative, small, larger
- h positive
- h negative
- k positive
- k negative

○ Post Activity

Small discussion of the characteristics of a parabola and the vertex form.

Time Required

10 minutes
