Chapter 3

Section 3.2 Investigating Quadratic Functions in Standard Form – Word Problems

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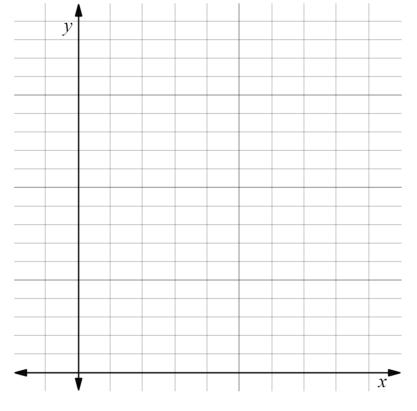
Given a quadratic function, identify the characteristics of graphs, including domain, range, intercepts, vertex
and the axis of symmetry.

Example At the Children's Festival, the organizers are roping off a rectangular area for stroller parking. There is 160 metres of rope available to create the perimeter.

a. Write a quadratic function in standard form to represent the area for the stroller parking.

b. What are the coordinates of the vertex? What does the vertex represent in this situation?

- c. Sketch the graph for the function you determined.
- d. Determine if there are any *x*-intercepts that are relevant. What do these intercepts, if they exist, represent in the situation?
- e. Determine the domain and range for the situation?



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Example Amaranth is a type of vegetable commonly grown in Asia, West Africa, and the Caribbean. When amaranth plants are grown in rows, the height that the plants attain is a quadratic function of the spacing between plants within a row. According to one study, the minimum height of the plants, about 16 cm, occurred when the plants were spaced about 27 cm apart. The study also found that the plants grew to about 20 cm when spaced about 40 cm apart. Write a quadratic model giving the plant height *h* as a function of the spacing *s*.