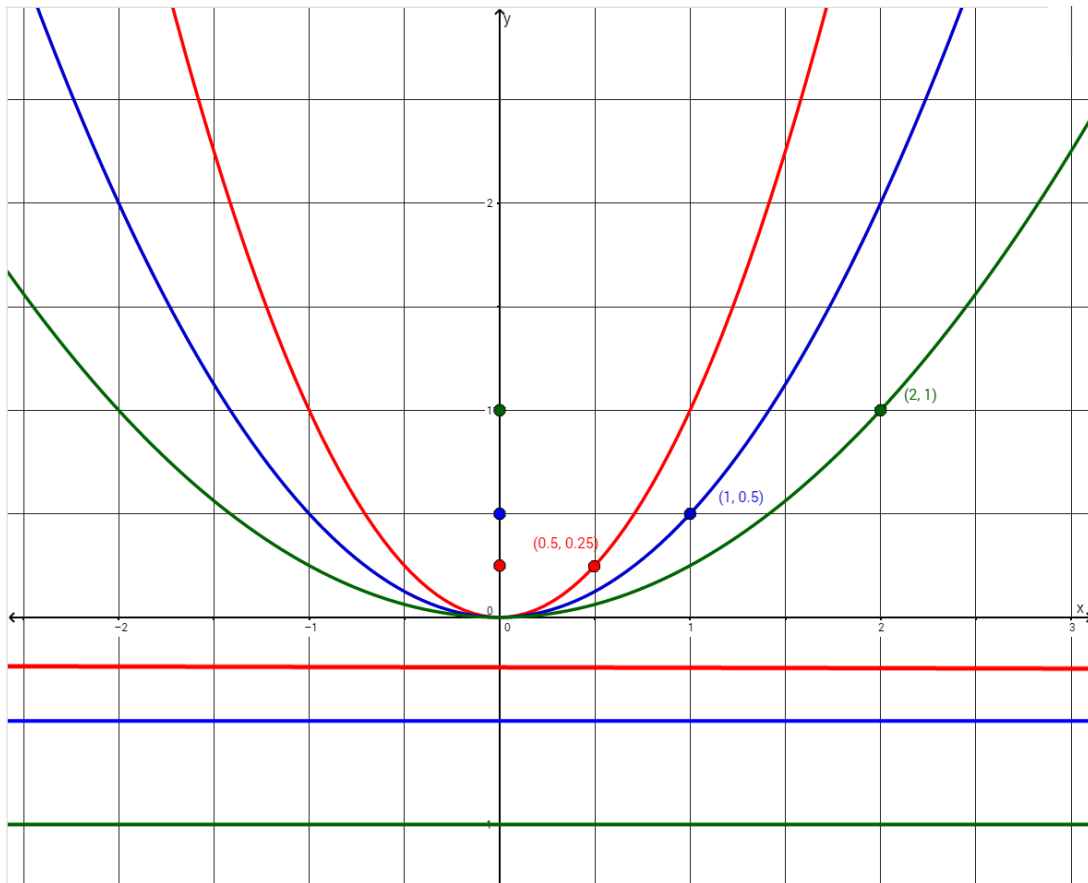


Definition: A parabola is the set of points that are **equal distance** from the focus and the directrix.

Below are the graphs of parabola  $p$ -values of  $\frac{1}{4}$ ,  $\frac{1}{2}$ , and 1. The “special points” are labeled on each parabola .

1. What makes the “special points” special? Use the definition of a parabola in your explanation.
2. How are the special points related to the  $p$ -value in the equation?
3. What is your conjecture about what will happen to the special points on the coordinate grid as the  $p$ -value increases?



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