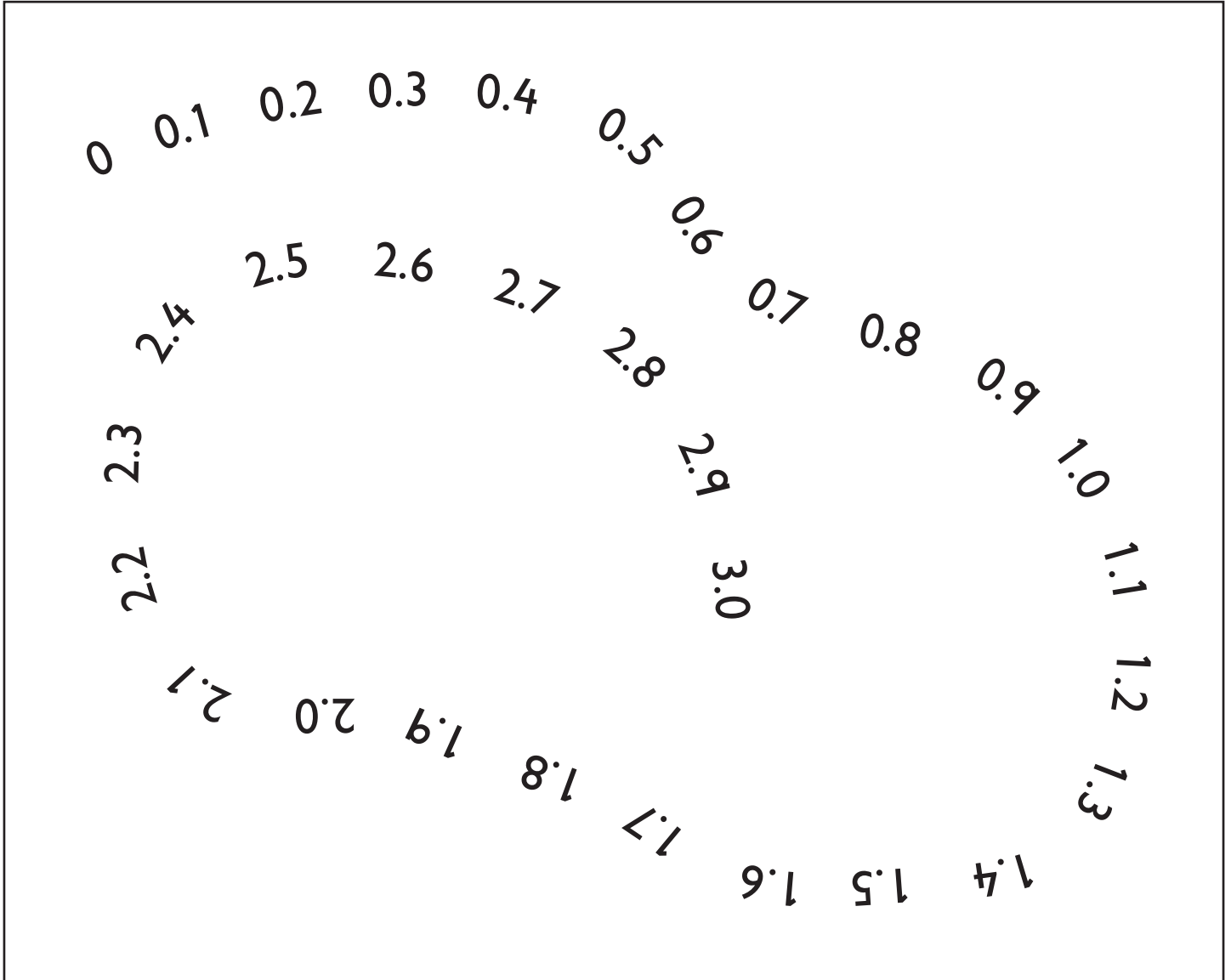


Square the middle



What to do

Choose three consecutive (next-door) numbers from the line above. Square the middle number and multiply the other two together.

Do this lots of times.

1. What do you find happens each time? Try and explain the pattern.
2. Now choose three consecutive whole numbers (such as 12, 13 and 14) and square the middle number then multiply together the other two.

Do this lots of times.

What do you notice happens each time? Try and explain the pattern.

For example, choose

$$0.7 \quad 0.8 \quad 0.9$$

$$0.8 \times 0.8 = 0.64$$

then

$$0.7 \times 0.9 = 0.63$$