

08 - Skateboard

Strap on your helmet and wrist guards because today's episode of Who Smarted? is about Skateboarding!

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2 things your Smartypants Kid(s) will discover in today's Skateboarding Episode:

The modern surfboard-shaped skateboard was invented by lifeguard Larry Stephenson in Southern California in the 1960s.

The terrible drought in 1970's California left backyard swimming pools empty, which is bad for swimming, but great for Skateboarding! This led to skateboarding tricks - and skateboarding's popularity - to take off!

Here's something we left out, for you to share:

8% of American Kids - that's nearly 7,000,000 people - rode a skateboard in the last year. Of those, around 3 million are "core skaters" who skate at least once a week. Fun fact - skateboarders are more likely to wear proper safety attire than any other casual athletic group.

Wanna keep the learning going after the episode?

Larry Stephenson invented the skateboard after seeing surfers riding very crude versions of boards on wheels on bad surf days. Ask your kid to invent something fun to do that doesn't exist yet!

Have your kid draw their own Super Cool Skateboard design!

More great skateboarding resources for parents and kids:

[Skate Like A Girl](#) - promoting inclusion, confidence, leadership and social justice through skateboarding.

[Boards for Bros](#) - giving all kids a chance to own a skateboard and experience self-reliance, perseverance, and physical and interpersonal skills

[Skate-Aid](#) - creating world peace through skateboarding - seriously. check them out.

[Skatepark project](#) - find a skatepark near you with the skatepark finder, from this organization that was formerly the Tony Hawk Foundation¹

¹ This activity guide is for the Who Smarted? podcast www.WhoSmarted.com