



11-Year-Old Skates Into Record Books

How did skateboarding begin?

- Skateboarding began in the late 1950s in California. Boards were originally just simple wooden boards with roller-skates attached to the bottom.
- In the 1970s, skating became more popular and better boards allowed people to perform tricks. In 1976, the first skatepark was built in Florida.

Have you ever dreamed of breaking a world record? Well, one boy from Brazil has found time on his hands to smash a record and make history.

Gui Khury, who is only 11 years old, has become the first person ever to land a 1080 trick on a **vert ramp**. That is an incredible three full **rotations** of the board in the **air** before landing.

Bored and with a lot of time at home, Gui needed a challenge. Luckily, he has been able to drop in to see his grandmother, who lives just 20 minutes away and has her own skatepark!

He completed his trick in Curitiba, Brazil, on a special skate ramp called a vert ramp. He was filmed by his parents, who then posted the video on social media. Afterwards, Gui commented on the video, "1080!!! I have no words to explain what just happened."

This is not the first time someone has ever completed a 1080. However, previous record-breakers used a 'mega ramp'. This is a huge ramp which allows the boarder to gain more speed and time in the air. Gui was able to do his spins with less speed and air.

Gui was already the youngest person to have completed a 900-degree turn on a vert ramp. He managed that at just eight years old!

Gui was **inspired** to start breaking records by



Illustration: A skateboarder completes a 1080.

one of his heroes: Tony Hawk. In 1999, Hawk completed the first-ever 900-degree turn on a vert ramp.

So, what is next for this record-breaking skater? Well, he has already committed to trying to complete a 1260 on a vert ramp. This is three and a half rotations in the air!

He also has ambitions to get into the Tokyo Olympics in 2021, where there will be a skating competition.

Glossary

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| rotation | To complete one full circle. |
| vert ramp | A large piece of equipment in the shape of U used in skateboarding. |
| air | The amount of time a skater stays in the air. |
| inspired | To be encouraged by someone else's achievements. |

Questions

1. How old was Gui when he completed his 1080?

2. Give **one** reason why, according to the article, it is more difficult to complete a 1080 on a vert ramp rather than on a mega ramp.

3. Gui likes a challenge. What evidence can you find in the final paragraph to support this?

4. '1080!!! I have no words to explain what just happened.' This suggests that...

- Gui was out of breath.
- Gui was overwhelmed by his achievement.
- Gui needed a thesaurus.
- Gui couldn't speak.

5. Tick to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Gui is the first person to have done a 900.		
Tony Hawk did a 900 in 1999.		
The first skatepark was in California.		
His grandmother owns her own skatepark.		

6. Summarise the key information in this article using 15 words or fewer.

Answers

1. How old was Gui when he completed his 1080?

11 years old

2. Give **one** reason why, according to the article, it is more difficult to complete a 1080 on a vert ramp rather than on a mega ramp.

Accept an answer which references the fact that on a vert ramp you have less speed and air, e.g. You go slower on a vert ramp than on a mega ramp.

3. Gui likes a challenge. What evidence can you find in the final paragraph to support this?

Accept an answer which is supported by evidence from the story, such as he plans to compete in the 2021 Olympics in Tokyo.

4. '1080!!! I have no words to explain what just happened.' This suggests that...

Gui was out of breath.

Gui was overwhelmed by his achievement.

Gui needed a thesaurus.

Gui couldn't speak.

5. Tick to show whether each statement is true or false.

	True	False
Gui is the first person to have done a 900.		✓
Tony Hawk did a 900 in 1999.	✓	
The first skatepark was in California.		✓
His grandmother owns her own skatepark.	✓	

6. Summarise the key information in this article using 15 words or fewer.

Accept any reasonable answer that is 15 words or fewer in length, e.g. Gui has become the first person to do a 1080 on a vert ramp.