

Name _____

Ken Griffey Jr.: Baseball's Iconic Legacy

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Ken Griffey Jr. being the first overall pick in the MLB draft in 1987 was significant because it marked the beginning of a promising career and high expectations, given his young age and exceptional talent. It also highlighted his potential to become a future baseball legend.
2. Ken Griffey Jr.'s father, Ken Griffey Sr., influenced his love for baseball by being a professional baseball player himself. Junior grew up around the game, watching his father play, which fueled his passion and talent for baseball.
3. Ken Griffey Jr.'s career was defined by both challenges and successes. His injuries were a significant challenge, but he overcame them with determination. Successes included winning MVP awards, Gold Glove Awards, and hitting over 600 career home runs.
4. Ken Griffey Jr. remains an iconic figure in baseball history because of his outstanding skills, his role as a mentor and inspiration to young players, and his impact on popularizing the sport. His love for the game and his charismatic personality also contribute to his enduring legacy.

