

Name _____

Larry Bird: A Legend on the Basketball Court

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Larry Bird's charisma, talent, and rivalry with Magic Johnson helped popularize the NBA, attracting more fans and viewers to the sport. His style of play, three-point shooting, and competitiveness made him a fan favorite.
2. Larry Bird's rivalry with Magic Johnson added drama and excitement to the NBA, as their teams, the Celtics and the Lakers, faced each other in multiple NBA Finals. Their contrasting styles and personalities captured the imagination of basketball fans around the world.
3. Larry Bird's work ethic was legendary. He was known for practicing tirelessly and working hard to improve his skills. His dedication and commitment to the game set an example for aspiring basketball players.
4. Young athletes can learn valuable lessons from Larry Bird, such as the importance of hard work, perseverance, sportsmanship, and leadership on and off the court. Bird's story shows that with determination and dedication, one can achieve greatness in sports and in life.

