

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## Skipping Childhood

### Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary based on personal experiences, but students can share their own feelings about growing up too quickly and how it has impacted their lives.
2. The poem illustrates that childhood should be cherished and valued for its simplicity and innocence by highlighting the contrast between the carefree joys of youth and the demands and stress of adulthood.
3. Advice for someone feeling pressured to grow up quickly could include finding time for play and relaxation, seeking support from friends and family, and remembering that growing up is a gradual process.
4. Individuals can balance the responsibilities of adulthood with the need to preserve the joys and wonder of childhood by setting aside time for leisure activities, nurturing hobbies and interests, and fostering a mindset that values both responsibility and playfulness.

