

For Alexander, Ethan, Oliver & Emilio



The Life of - La vida de  
**RITCHIE**

Born May 13, 1941, Ritchie Valens was a Mexican-American singer, songwriter, and guitarist. His musical journey started at age 5 when his father encouraged him to take up guitar. In high school, he made his performing debut with the band The Silhouettes. At 17, Ritchie recorded his final record, which included classics like "Donna" and "La Bamba." That record went on to sell over one million copies. To this day, Ritchie Valens' music lives on in the hearts of many!

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Bilingual

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**RITCHIE**



The Life of - La vida de

**RITCHIE**

A  
bilingual  
picture book  
biography

Art by  
Citlali Reyes



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By  
Patty Rodriguez  
&  
Ariana Stein

His father gifted him his first

**GUITAR**



Su papá le regaló su primer

**GUITARRA**



At age 16, he joined a  
**BAND**



A los 16 años, se unió a un  
**GRUPO MUSICAL**



He wrote a song about his  
**BEST FRIEND**



Le compuso una canción a su  
**MEJOR AMIGA**



Shortly after,  
he played with many great  
**MUSICIANS**



Poco tiempo después,  
empezó a tocar con otros grandes  
**MÚSICOS**

