

Dr. Veronika Timpe-Laughlin

BACKGROUND



I'm a research scientist in the Center for Language Education and Assessment Research at Educational Testing Service in Princeton, NJ.

I hold a Ph.D. in Applied Linguistics/TESOL (*englische Fachdidaktik*) from TU Dortmund University and an M.A. in Language Testing from Lancaster University, UK.

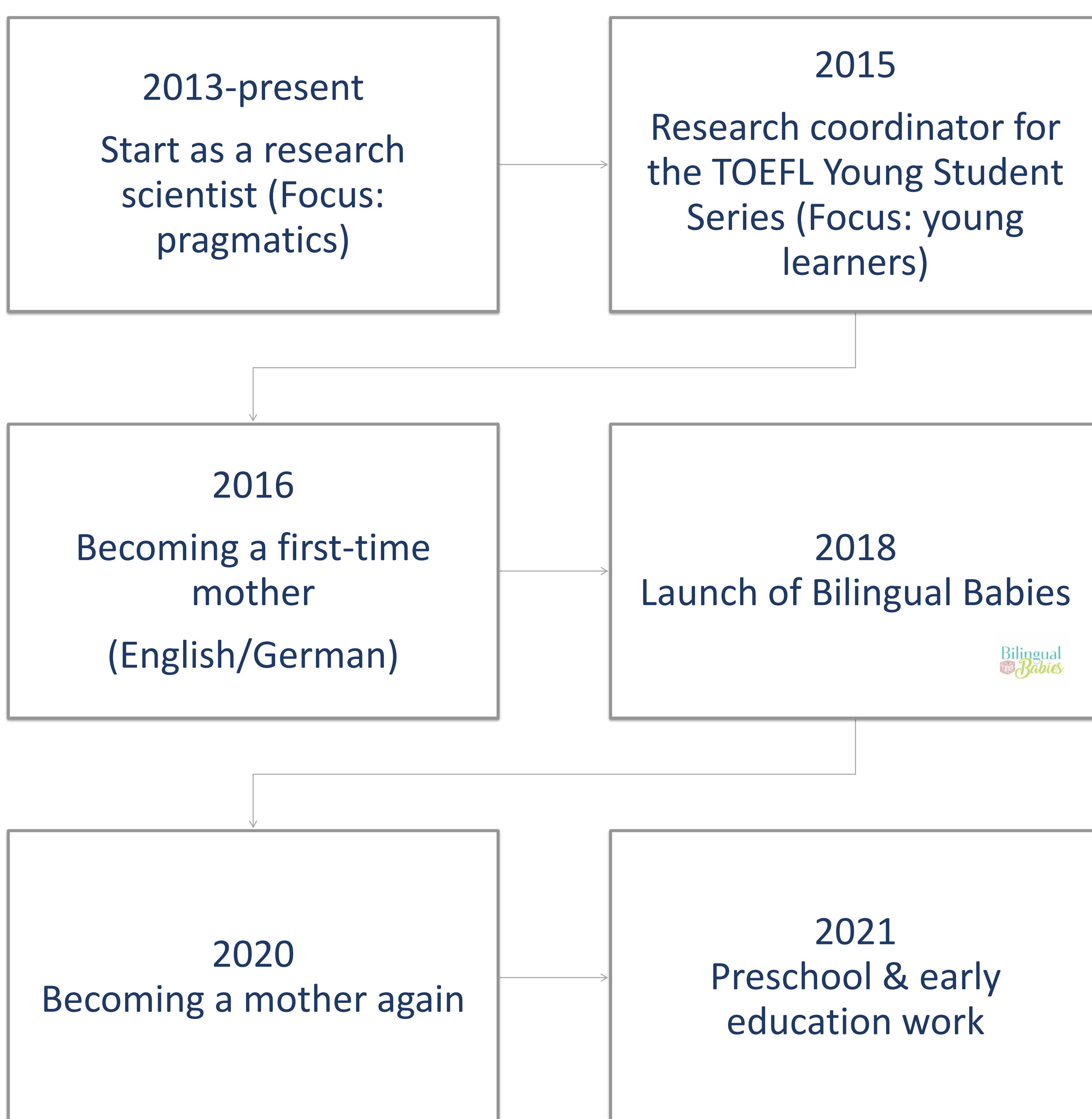
Areas of research:

- Educational assessment
- Teaching English as a second/foreign language (TESOL)
- World language learning in preschool and kindergarten classrooms

Interests:

- Assessing young language learners
- L2 pragmatics & intercultural communicative competence
- Task-based language teaching and assessment
- Language learning using spoken dialogue systems
- Children's bilingual development

WORK & PERSONAL LIFE: A LANGUAGE JOURNEY



What is Bilingual-Babies?

Bilingual-Babies is an online platform that offers free, research-informed advice and resources for families who raise their children with multiple languages.

Why did I launch Bilingual-Babies?

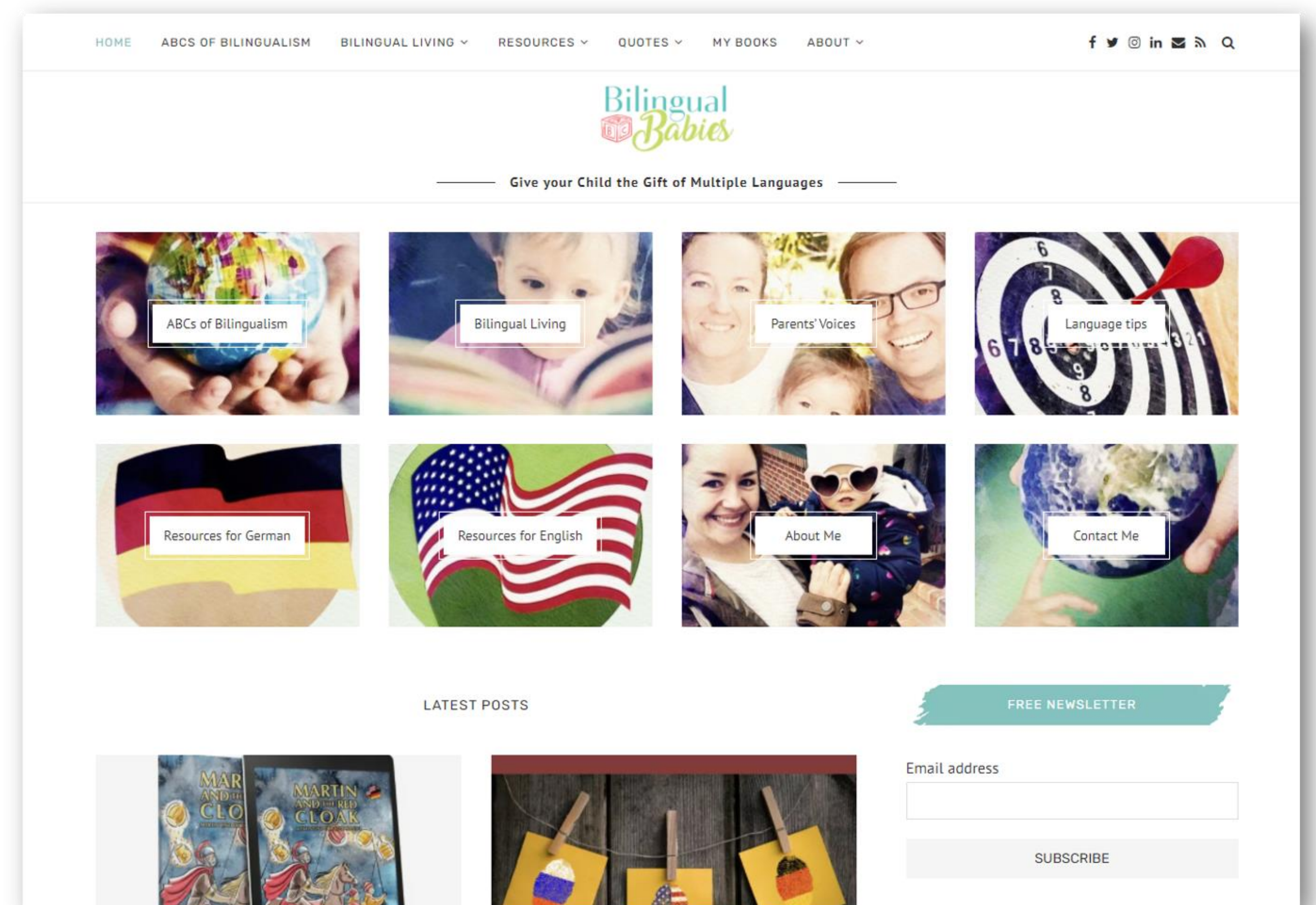
Because I am a researcher in language education, many assumed that I was an expert in bilingual first language acquisition (BFLA), a field that is arguably very different from formal language education. I received many questions about BFLA, which in the beginning I wasn't sure how to answer.



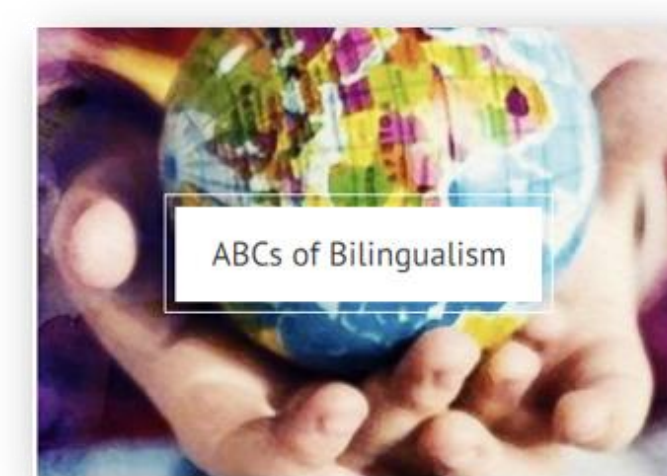
When becoming a mother, I began reading up on the BFLA research literature and increasingly noticed the lack of information among other multilingual parents, many of whom had given up on their bilingual journeys. So, I decided to share what I had learned via an online platform.

BILINGUAL-BABIES: A PLATFORM FOR FAMILIES

Bilingual-Babies =
a community service for bilingual families



CONTENTS OF BILINGUAL-BABIES



Research-informed posts about aspects of bilingualism and bilingual education



Brief "how to" tips and recommendations on bilingual parenting



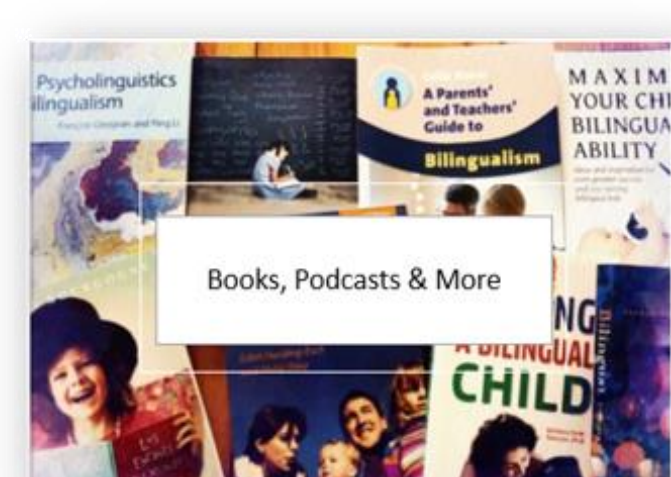
Posts about personal experiences, challenges, and how we dealt with it



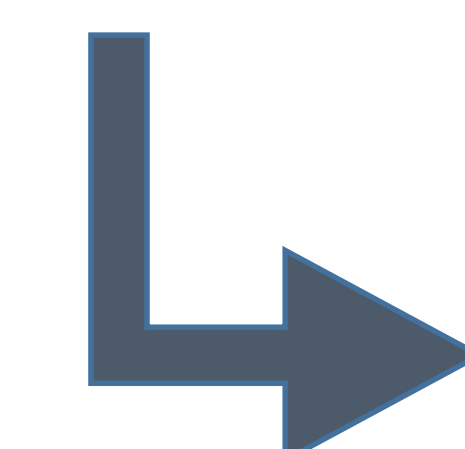
Resources and materials for German (also for English)



Interviews with parents who raise their children with multiple languages



Reviews of podcasts, TED talks & books about bilingualism



A game-changing interview:
Kylie Peslak (Early Education Teacher)



BILINGUAL-BABIES & LANGUAGE EDUCATION RESEARCH

- Bringing together my interest in bilingual children with my work as a research scientist at ETS
 - A new research project in collaboration between ETS and the YMCAs of New Jersey: Language learning in U.S. preschools (2021-ongoing)
 - Developing 'Awakening to Languages curriculum' for preschools in the United States with a focus on drawing upon (bilingual) children's linguistic repertoires (Collaboration with Dr. Mónica Lourenço, University of Aveiro, Portugal)
- Editing a book with interviews I conducted with parents who are also Ph.D. linguists, many of them who work in second language acquisition research