

30 GREAT  
CLASSROOM  
ACTIVITIES

HASHTAGS  
& PLN TIPS



The  
AMAZING

# Twitter-Tastic

The  
ULTIMATE

## Teacher's Guide

# What's Inside Our Book?

(actually, it's **YOUR** book!)

That's right—we created this book just for you. Why? Because we believe learning should be fun, and social media tools like Twitter are designed for making learning just like that.

Here are 30 of the best uses we've found for Twitter in a modern classroom, along with the skills they develop and what each activity looks like. Pick your favourites, or go nuts and try them all!

After that, check out our list of Twitter hashtags that are all the rage in education. We also profile some of ways in which Twitter can be a useful tool for any teacher's professional needs.

**READY?  
SET?  
TWEET!**





# Awesome Updates

Breaking news in real time keeps busy students updated for pop quizzes and other projects related to current news events.

- \* global awareness
- \* reading
- \* listening
- \* citizenship
- \* current events
- \* debate skills



**Create your own hashtags and do regular updates on current events, or subscribe to your favourite running news feeds. Discuss news stories and share opinions.**

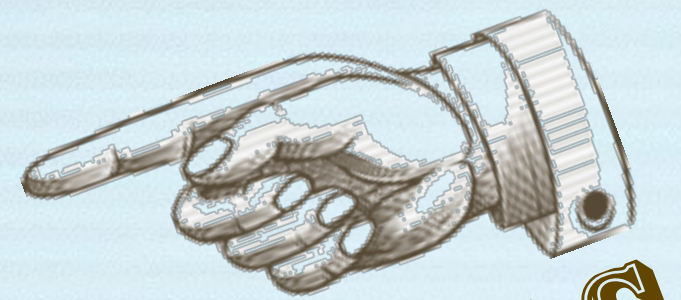




# Research Roundup

You can search for blogs and other information on Twitter, or set up your own microblog and collect responses from all over the world.

- \* research skills
- \* critical thinking
- \* searching
- \* blogging
- \* organizing
- \* analyzing



## SKILLS



**Type keywords into Twitter to access lots of microblogs on practically any subject. You can do searches by topic, location, URL, keyword, hashtag, and more.**



# Summing it All Up

Paraphrasing the bigger concepts focuses on essential understanding. Twitter's standard 140-character limit encourages concise explanations.

- \* critical thinking
- \* focus
- \* attention
- \* meaning
- \* understanding
- \* paraphrasing



**Have students summarize a major event, philosophy, or scientific or mathematical concept. Ask them, "How would you sum this up in 140 characters or less?"**



# Speaking in Tongues

Twitter is international and currently supports over 30 languages. It's perfect for learning to communicate using different dialects.

- \* language skills
- \* writing
- \* ESL
- \* global awareness
- \* ethics
- \* cultural familiarity



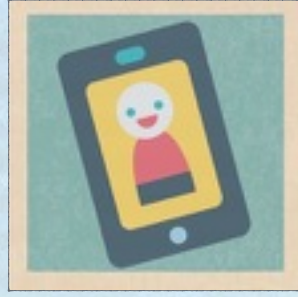
**Students can tweet and respond to each other using a different language. They can summarize ideas and practice conversing, reading, and speaking in other languages.**

## Changing Twitter Language Settings

- Sign in to your Twitter account.
- Click the profile icon in the upper right corner and select Settings.
- Choose your language from the drop-down menu.
- Go to the bottom of the page and click on Save.
- Enter password when prompted, and click Save Changes. You're all done!

(source: Twitter Help Center)

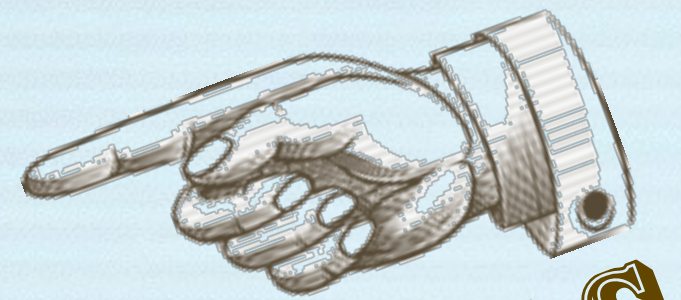




# The Buddy System

Sometimes people are absent from class for any number of reasons. Twitter can keep everybody informed on class news and assignments.

- \* teamwork
- \* communication
- \* trust
- \* empathy
- \* networking
- \* accountability

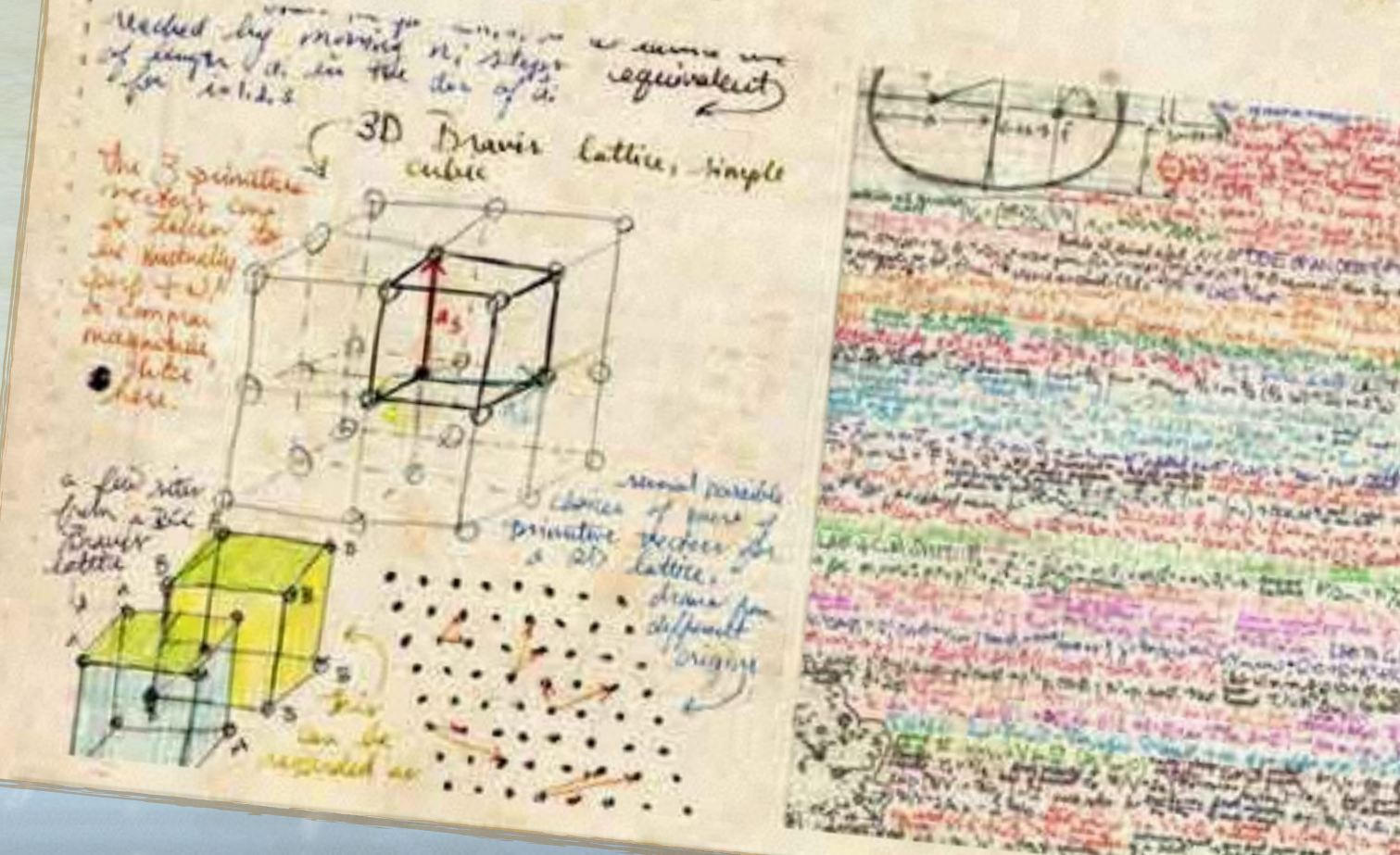
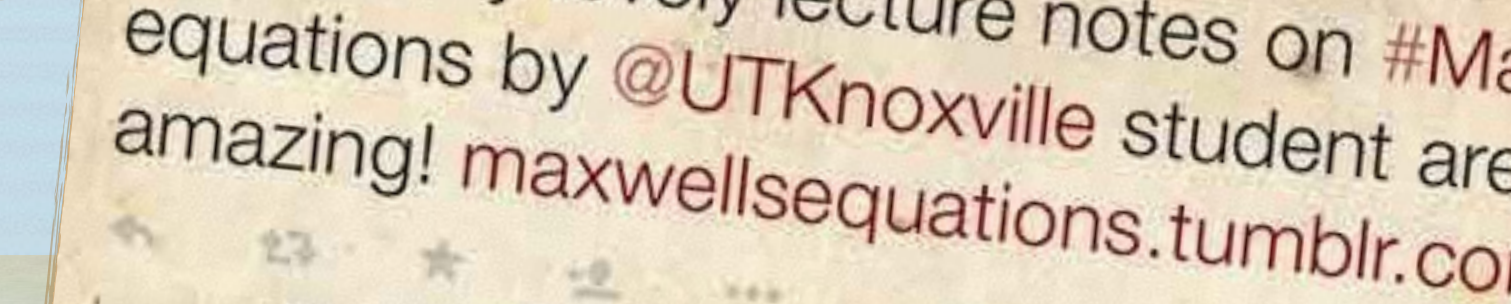
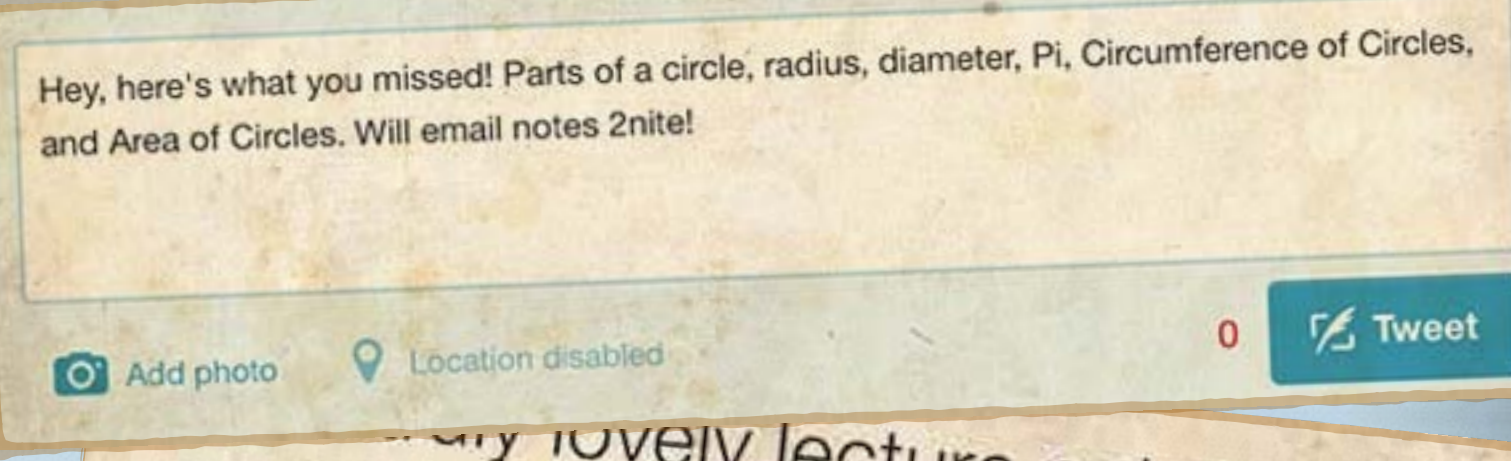


## SKILLS



### Handy Tip

Know your contacts—  
tweet during times  
he/she will most  
likely see them!



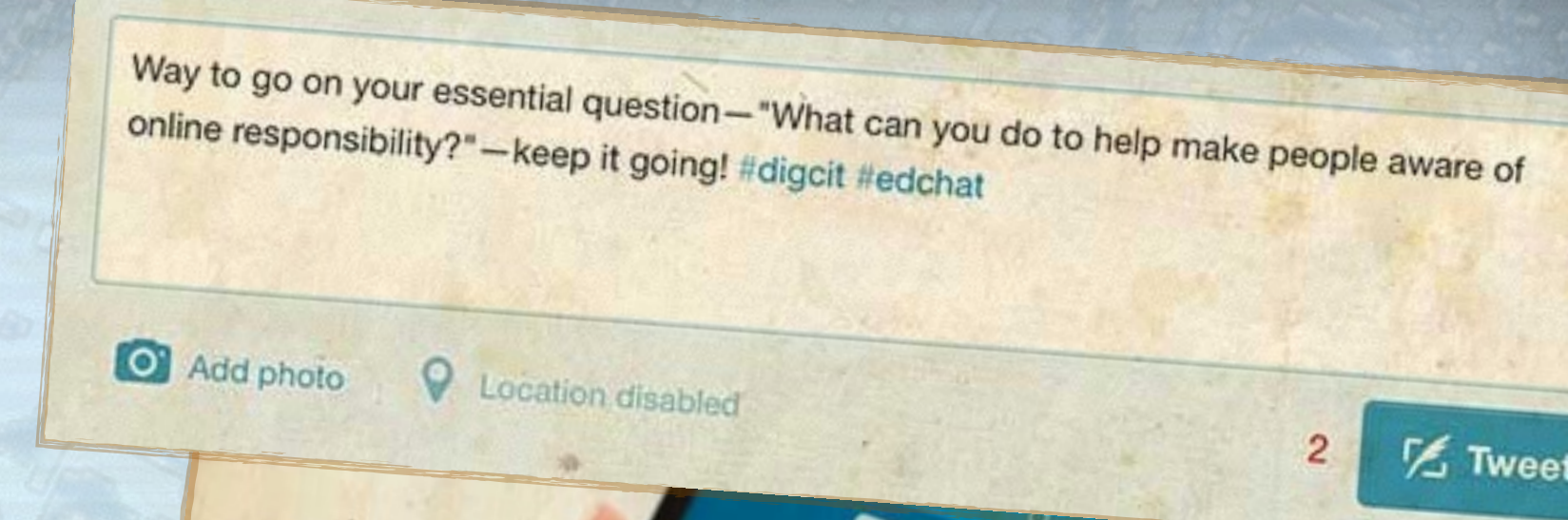
**Teachers can post details on homework, points from class lessons, or lecture notes for absent students. They can also assign the absentee a class "buddy" to do this.**



# Instant Feedback

Our digital kids like to get immediate rewards and feedback from teachers and peers. Use Twitter to send out feedback quickly.

- \* communication
- \* productivity
- \* engagement
- \* assessment
- \* constructive criticism



**Provide instant feedback to the students on assignments, discussions, and ideas in real time. Engage them in some constructive peer assessments on class projects using Twitter.**







# Question Periods

Sometimes a question can be pressing or important, and Twitter allows kids who might be shy about speaking up in class to have a voice.

- \* communication
- \* organization
- \* self confidence
- \* connection
- \* class management



**SKILLS**



Encourage students to tweet about their learning process and challenges, too!

What is the greatest common factor of 4 and 8?



Does a close relationship between church and state lead to a more moral society?  
#sociology #socialstudies #historyteacher

Add photo



Location disabled

**Schedule "question periods" so students can ask questions on the spot in an organized manner, so as to avoid teachers having to field too many questions at one time.**



I'm confused about Malcolm's motivations speaking with Macduff—Act IV Sc 1-3—I feel like he's testing Duff's loyalty. #Shakespeare #litchat

Add photo



Location disabled



# Inspiration Station

Twitter's 140-character limit makes it a fun and challenging exercise for students to create motivational quotes for sharing with friends.

- \* peer support
- \* communication
- \* writing skills
- \* creativity
- \* critical thinking



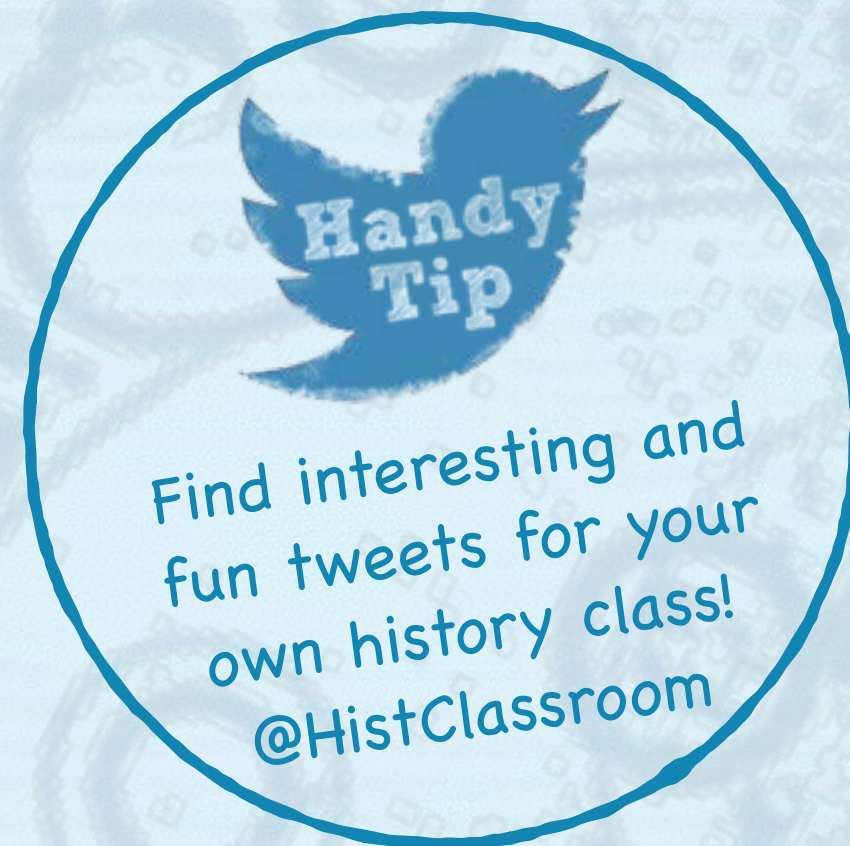
Students can create and share daily or weekly inspirational quotes with teachers and students. Include hashtags to follow content on Twitter that is also similar.



# Historical Voices

Teachers in history class can have their students show understanding of content by having them step into the shoes of an historical figure.

- \* communication
- \* understanding
- \* creativity
- \* historical events
- \* presentation skills
- \* role playing



"He who lives in harmony with himself lives in harmony with the universe."

-Marcus Aurelius

"Honesty is the first chapter of the book wisdom."

-Thomas Jefferson



"Success is stumbling from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm."

-Winston Churchill

"Let no man pull you so low as to hate him."

-Martin Luther King Jr.



"I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart."

-Anne Frank



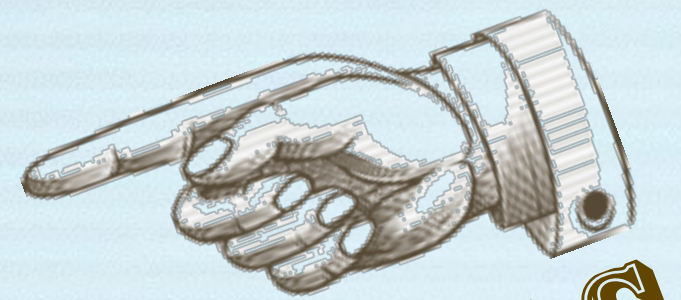
**Ask a question about an event of historical significance, and have the student tweet the answer in the character of the historical figure directly affected by the event.**



# Bloggging Around

Twitter links with Wordpress and other blogging platforms, so you can follow student blogs to see what they're writing about.

- \* peer support
- \* communication
- \* writing skills
- \* creativity
- \* blogging
- \* journaling



## SKILLS



**Create a social writing community in your class. Follow blogs of your choice or some student-written blogs, and share ideas and opinions on Twitter about topics of interest.**





# Pros and Con-nections

Students preparing to leave college and look for jobs can have short conversations and tweet questions to people in their field of interest.

- \* professionalism
- \* job-searching
- \* market research
- \* interview skills
- \* responsibility
- \* networking



## Tips for Professional Networking on Twitter

- Create your profile as though it is your resume
- Use [WeFollow](#) or [Twellow](#) to find industry leaders
- Respond to tweets with courtesy
- Don't tweet too much, but tweet consistently—make them count!
- Follow trending topics and hashtags



Students can use Twitter to connect with professionals in their field of interest. High school students can follow post-secondary schools they're interested in.

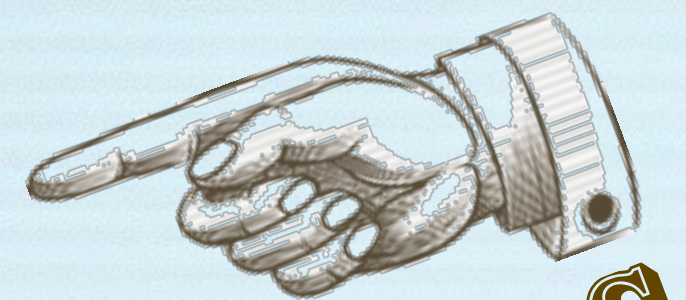




# Top-Notch Reviews

Twitter lets you focus your opinions and thoughts when writing media critiques in film, literature, or other media studies classes.

- \* media studies
- \* Media Fluency
- \* literary skills
- \* assessment
- \* communication
- \* critical thinking



## SKILLS

**Handy Tip**

Set up a challenge for students—best review in under 140 characters!

Incarceron-Epic, twisty fantasy -Teens escape a future stuck in the past & a malevolent living prison <http://amzn.to/kaTN9d> #booktweet =D

“A great framework for an epic saga. Mr. Rossi has constructed a fascinating tale full of fantasy, magic and wizards. He has magnificently mixed in time travel and a cameo of people from a distant future.”  
- Wordrefiner

**HOW TO ANALYZE MALE CHARACTERS IN BOOK-REVIEWS**

THE CHAIR

ROBBY PIPER

THE CHAIR



Students can write and tweet micro-reviews on books, films, and music for media classes or to add to their personal feeds. They can use Twitter to spark discussions about them.

What's happening?

The importance of being Ernest: 2 boys with alter egos to escape real life. Each one uses the other's escape mechanism to get himself a bride.



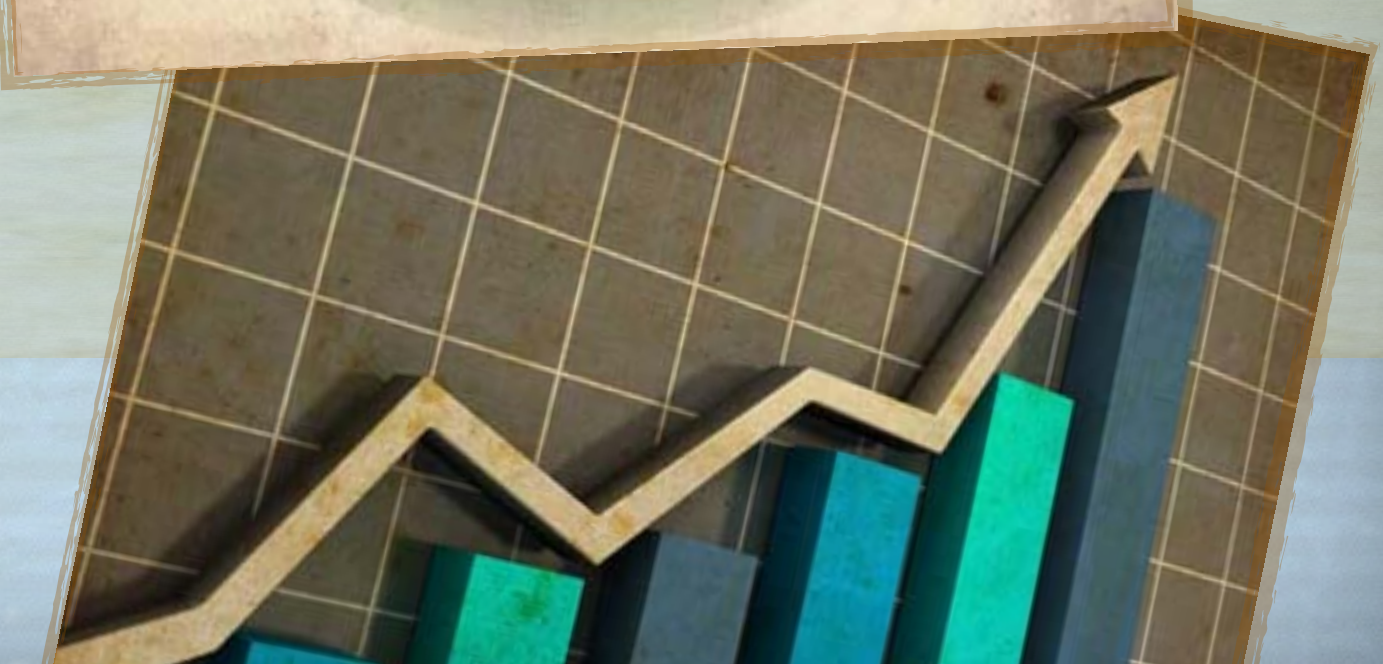
# Polls and Surveys

Use Twitter to get quick responses—everything from pop quizzes to taking votes on where to have your next field trip, and more.

- \* communication
- \* organization
- \* collaboration
- \* content knowledge
- \* stats analysis
- \* Information Fluency



**Create surveys or quizzes and have students respond using tweets. The students who may be shy about speaking up will be able to contribute responses and also have a say.**





# Telling Tales Together

This is an exercise where students create stories by tweeting a phrase or a sentence to add to each previous entry—a chain of creativity.

- \* Creativity Fluency
- \* creative writing
- \* unifying ideas
- \* listening
- \* comprehension
- \* collaboration



**SKILLS**



Keep the feed going live and have other classes contribute their ideas!



Students create their own progressive poem or story. A student tweets out a “story starter” concept, and everyone else adds their own sentences to keep the story going.





# Subject Sensations

Impromptu puzzles and quests in subjects can help develop content knowledge and also encourage peer support among students.

- \* collaboration
- \* comprehension
- \* Solution Fluency
- \* Information Fluency
- \* critical thinking
- \* taking direction



**Math questions** @mathquestions · 20 Aug 2009  
 Q: How can you add eight 8's to get the number 1,000? Good Luck!  
 Details



What are some of the new technology terms, tools and concerns about integrating such tools into instruction? #eltchat #edtechchat |  
 Location disabled 10 Tweet

@puzzle\_word facebook.com/groups/wonderf...  
 Check this open to public group and If interested Join and have fun by solving each day's new puzzle.



Suzy is twice as old as 4 yr old Eve. Jo is 2 yrs younger than her sis Suzy. The sum of the 3 sisters' ages is 1/2 mom's age-How old is mom?



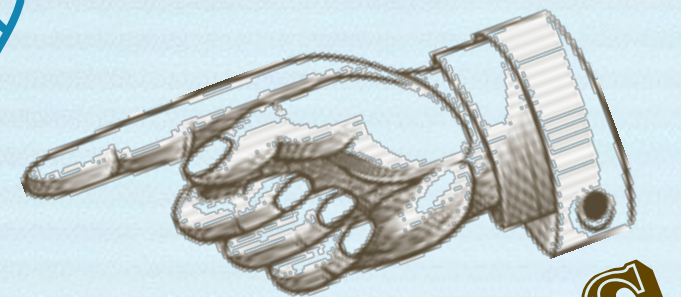
**Create a daily or a weekly subject challenge for the students to solve through Twitter communication. Try a word puzzle, a math challenge, or a quest to uncover a mystery.**



# Tweetable Galleries

A great place for creative students to share art and picture exhibits with their supporters is on Twitter, where imagery comes alive.

- \* Creativity Fluency
- \* presentation
- \* arts and media
- \* organization
- \* peer networking
- \* portfolio building



**SKILLS**



**The creative student can contribute regularly to their own microblog art gallery with Twitter. Post artwork and photo work, and use Twitter as a handy mini-portfolio tool.**

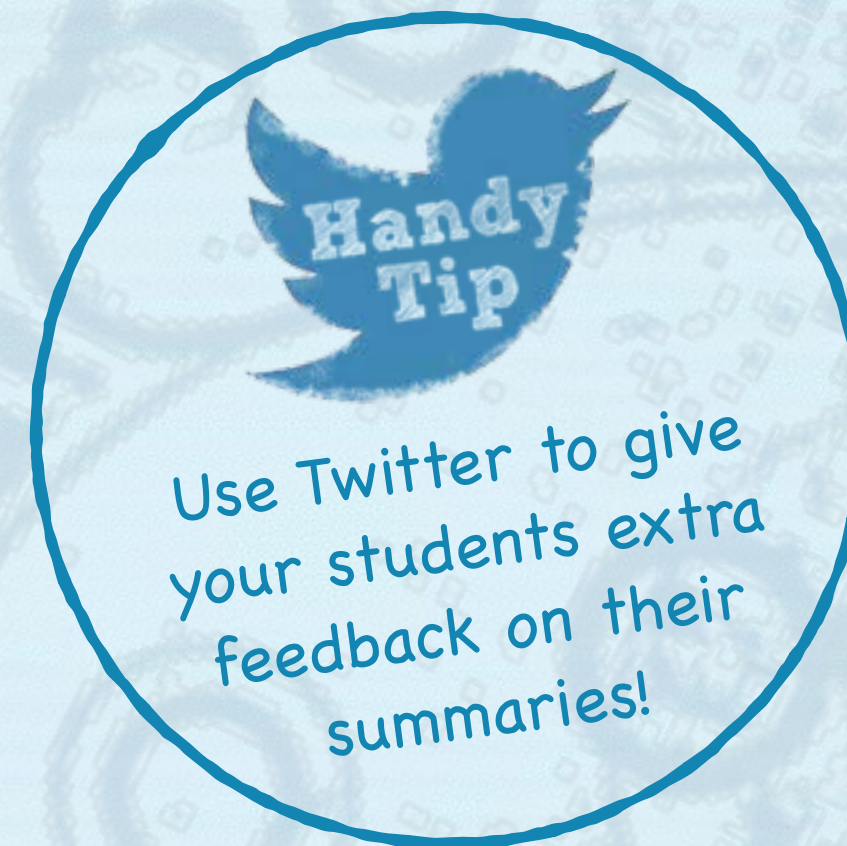




# Lesson Summaries

Students can sum up what they've learned—this is a great way to test students about what they remember from the day's teaching.

- \* attention
- \* awareness
- \* listening skills
- \* communication
- \* comprehension
- \* assessment



Teachers can have students tweet a concise 140-character summary of a class or lesson to demonstrate what they have learned; a great way to measure engagement.



1900 Max Planck theorizes that energy is made of individual units, or quanta. #science #scichat



Rational numbers can be expressed as a ratio of two integers. They can be fractions, decimals or whole numbers #mathchat #math



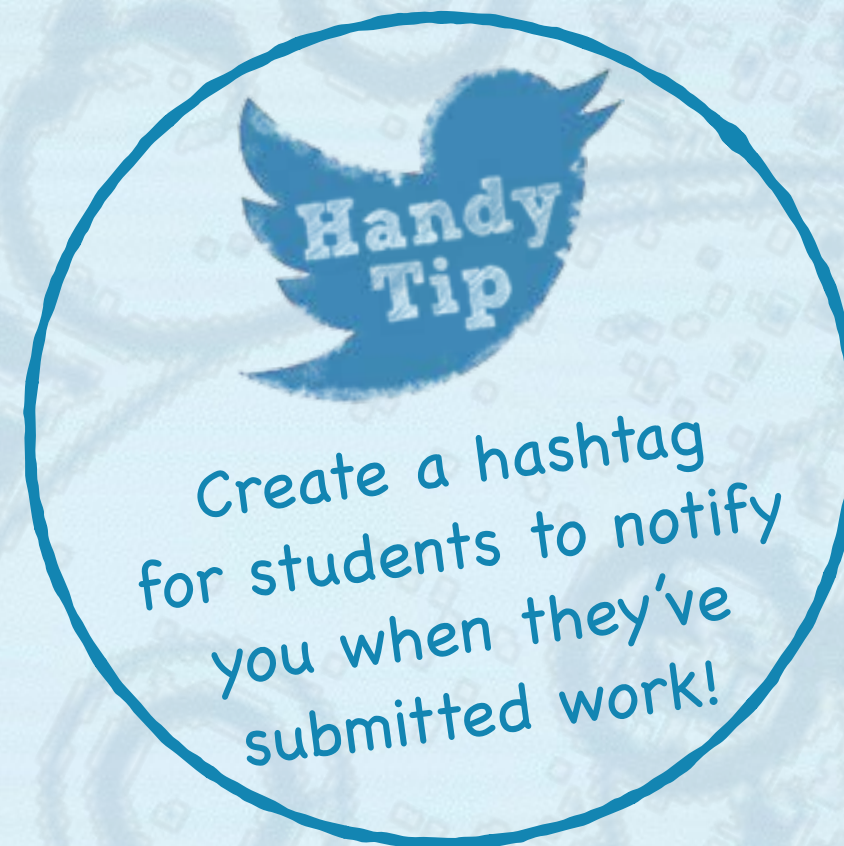
Nuremberg trials—military tribunals held by the Allied forces for the prosecution of members of the Nazi party #WW2 #history #edchat



# Bulletin Board

Keep the class informed quickly and easily on any last-minute bulletins and news that's relevant to classes, using short Twitter updates.

- \* communication
- \* organization
- \* collaboration
- \* networking
- \* class management



Good news! One more afternoon to work on our projects—spread the word and get busy!  
#board4bulletins



@coolclassroomnews Our Skype the Author session begins in 10 min. Head to Room #347 and get your spot for this great event!



**Create a Twitter feed for a class bulletin board, and keep everyone updated on any class-related news like changes in schedules or for quick reminders of upcoming events.**

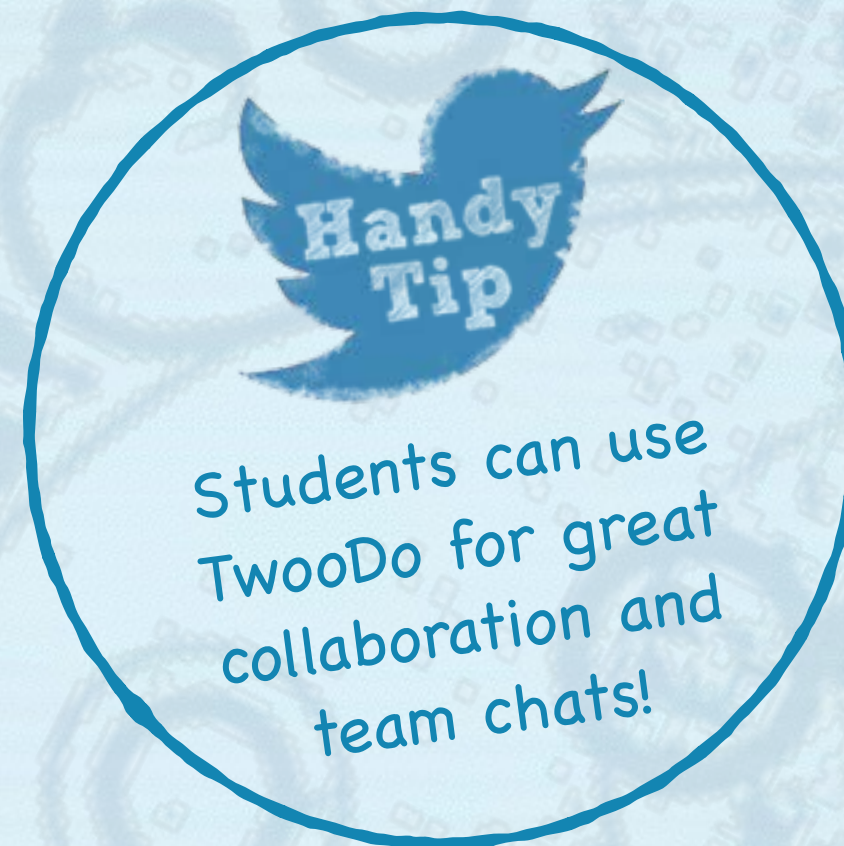




# Terrific Teamwork

Twitter is perfect for kids who want to stay aligned with updates on group assignments, and on reports for group and individual progress.

- \* responsibility
- \* accountability
- \* focus
- \* organization skills
- \* communication
- \* task management



@JayBird how are we doing on the mini-exhibit files: I sent the latest JPEGS last night—Let me know if you need any help!!!!



Just finished milestone number 3—collected all the dat we needed on monthly cafeteria visits—next up: PLAN A MENU!!! :) #fooddoctors|



THIS JUST IN!!! We nailed down our rehearsal space for the talent show. Mon to Fri: 5PM to 9PM time slot at New Horizon Centre! #dramageeks



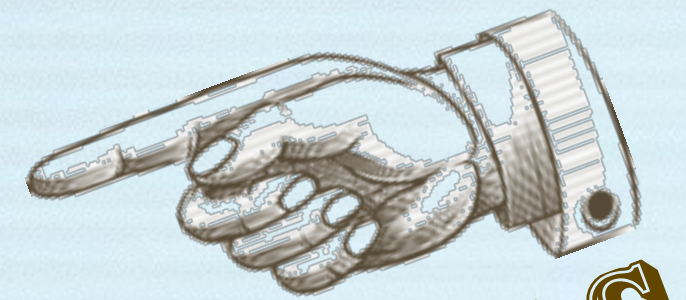
Let students create their own tweet-based system to check off milestones, update progress, and hold each other accountable during projects they collaborate on.



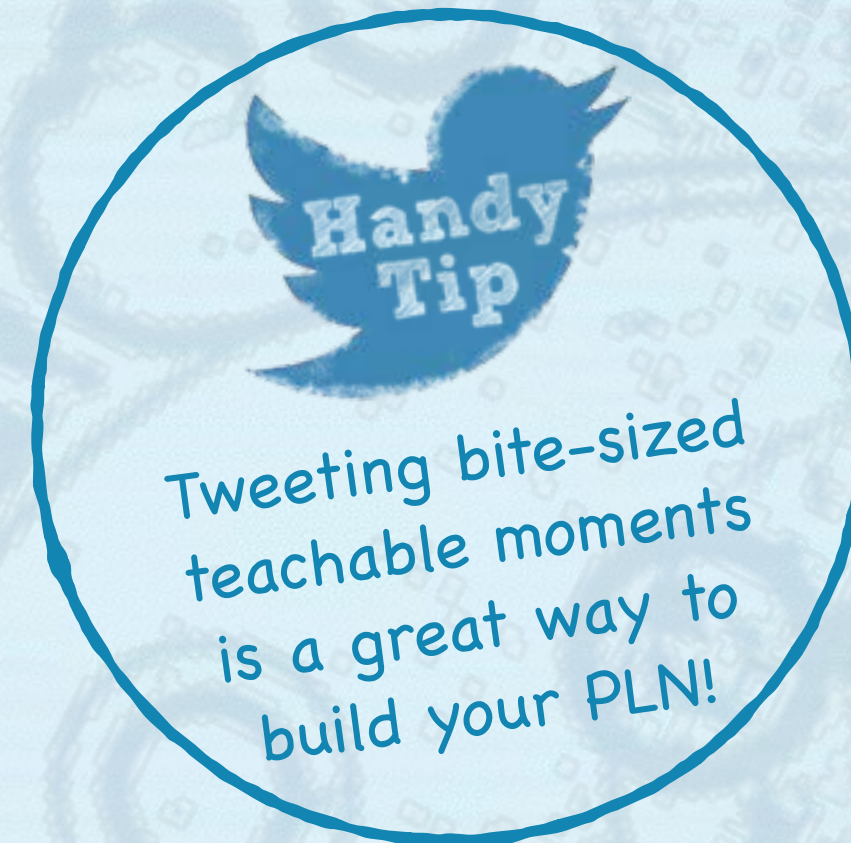
# Bite-Sized Teaching

Share subject-specific tidbits and facts that help with any subject like medical terms, historical quotes, fun facts, and more.

- \* communication
- \* networking
- \* idea sharing
- \* subject awareness
- \* comprehension
- \* Information Fluency



## SKILLS



"But come what may, I do adore thee so that danger shall seem sport, and I will go!" - #Shakespeare  
 (12 quotes for #TwelfthNight)

### 5 FACTS ABOUT OXFORD

1. Oxford has more published writers per square mile than anywhere in the world.
2. Rock bands Supergrass and Radiohead came from Oxford.
3. Oxford University has educated 26 UK Prime Ministers.
4. It's also the oldest English-speaking University in the world.
5. Carfax Tower is the tallest building at 74 ft; no building can be higher.

The Superficial Branch of the Radial Nerve passes along the front of the radial side of the forearm to the commencement of its lower 1/3.

UberFacts @UberFacts · 3h  
 15 life hacks you should probably never try...  
 Minty dogs? [bit.ly/1pnukPg](http://bit.ly/1pnukPg)

Oscar Wilde Quotes @OscarWildeQuo · 24 Feb 2011  
 Keep love in your heart. A life without it is like a sunless garden when the flowers are dead.  
 #botroid



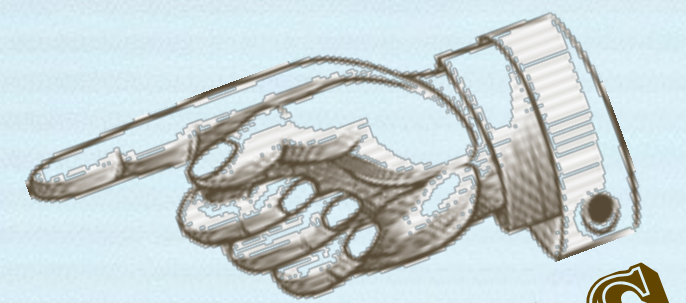
**Tweet subject-specific tidbits out to students anytime you like. Set up an account for just one single topic, or as a general information outlet and use subject-specific hashtags.**



# Global Gatherings

Students can use Twitter to share project ideas and information with students all over the world, and collaborate with them on projects..

- \* communication
- \* networking
- \* idea sharing
- \* global awareness
- \* cultural connection
- \* Collaboration Fluency



## SKILLS



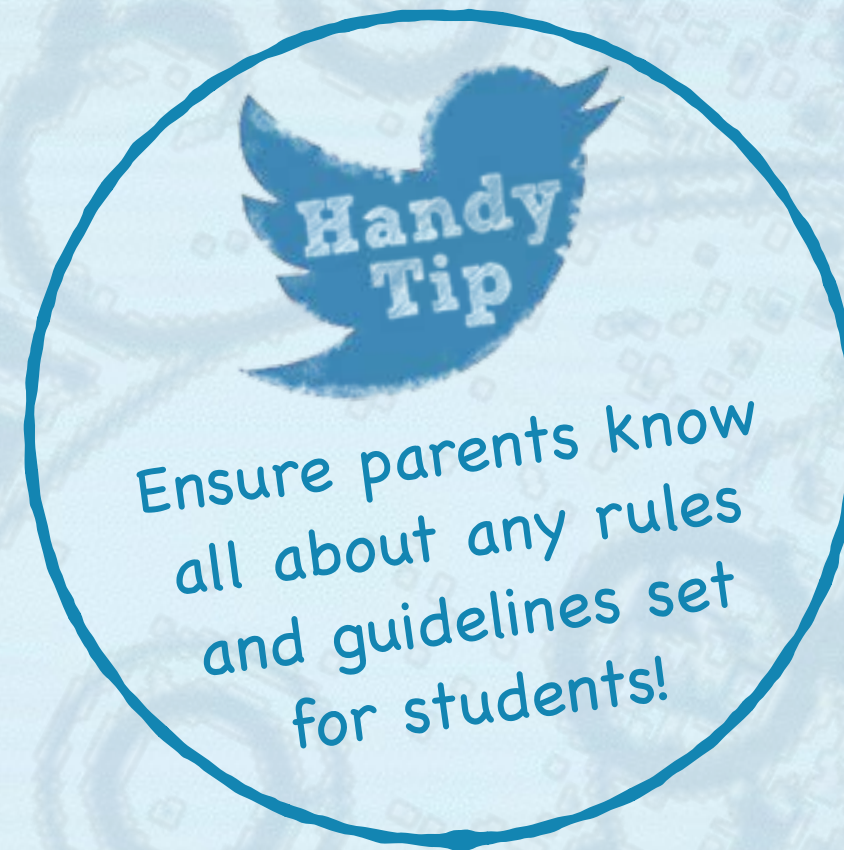
**Students can connect via Twitter with other students across the world and collaborate on projects. They can incorporate web video conferencing tools like Skype.**



# Connect to Parents

Updating parents on student progress, new school events, meetings, and more is a great use for Twitter between parents and teachers.

- \* communication
- \* building trust
- \* transparency
- \* networking
- \* parent/teacher relations



## Tips for Parent/Teacher Networking on Twitter

- Keep parents regularly informed
- Respond to questions/conflicts promptly and concisely
- Set an example for both parents and students with social media
- Engage in two-way conversations with parents
- Get to know individual schedules whenever possible in order to make the most effective communication



**Use Twitter to connect with parents and keep them updated on student work and progress, special projects and school events, scheduling changes, and important meetings.**



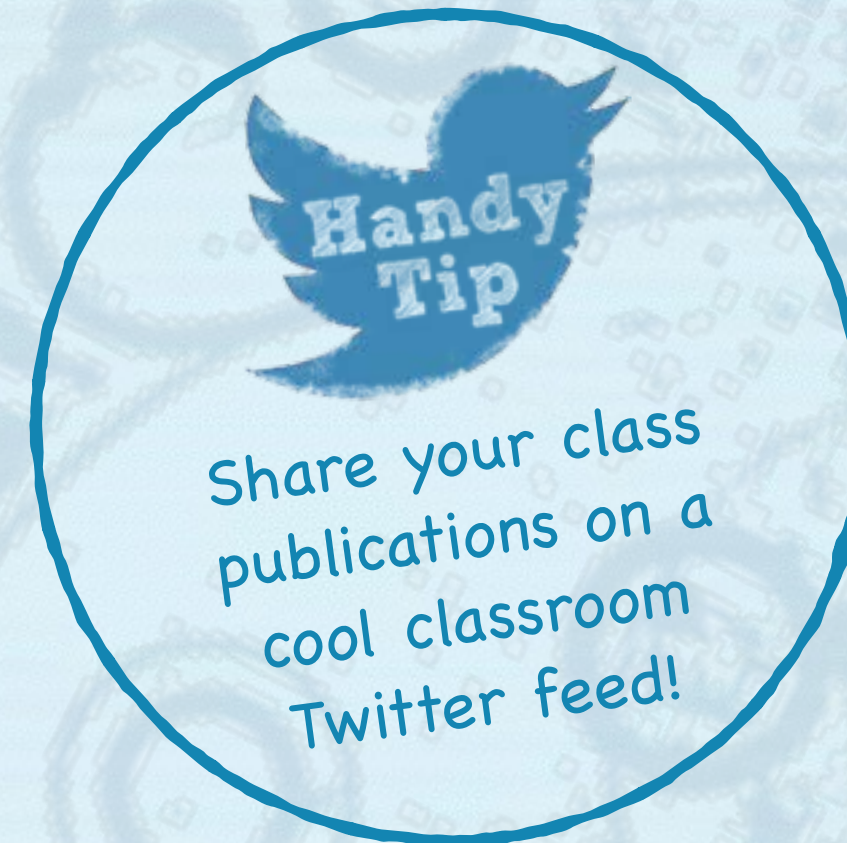




# Classroom Culture

Students can use Twitter to contribute to a class blog, newspaper, or newsletter with their own hashtags devoted to each special section.

- \* collaboration
- \* self expression
- \* publishing
- \* area knowledge
- \* organization
- \* networking



MSP .@AlisonJohnstone pledges to "pop in" to #edinburghunifossilfree occupation often. Says many "inspired by you."



Students can contribute original content to a class blog, newsletter, or ePaper by using hashtags for each specific section. They can write focus pieces and share opinions.

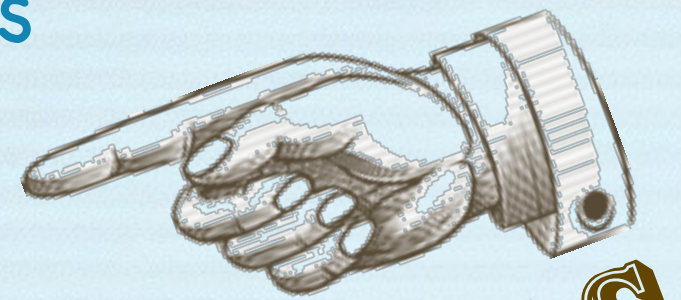




# Role-Playing Power

English and history classes can incorporate role-playing as students choose their favourite characters to act out on Twitter.

- \* character analysis
- \* role-playing
- \* networking
- \* comprehension
- \* character analysis
- \* Creativity Fluency



**SKILLS**



Hook up with friends who are role-playing and create some unique stories!

"Where there is kindness there is goodness and where there is goodness there is magic. Have yourself a magical day!"

Roleplay Adventures @RPAdventures · May 5  
role-player.net/forum/forumdis... So many battles to be fought!



Your time is limited don't waste it living someone else's life. Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition -Steve Jobs .



As long as you remember those fallen, you can strive forward and make the world a better place ~Sherlock



**Ask students to learn about a famous character from history or their favourite books and develop Twitter personalities for them, then send out tweets in the role of that person.**



# Bold Brand Building

Many digital-age professionals use brands to create loyalty, and using Twitter for this is something students can start working on in school.

- \* self expression
- \* publishing
- \* organization
- \* Creativity Fluency
- \* identity
- \* media and marketing



Have students look into creating a personal brand, how it can benefit them in the future, and how to start their branding process using social media tools like Twitter.

## Brand-Building Checklist

- Choose your Twitter name
- Decide what you offer
- Show how good you are
- Create a marketing plan
- Use third-party apps
- Establish support networks
- Tweet regularly
- Make it fun and exciting!





# Scavenger Hunts

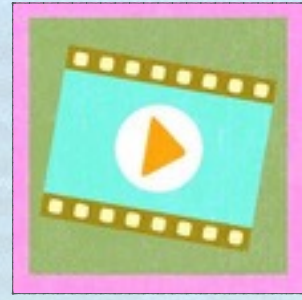
Explore, discover, and learn—Twitter is terrific for hosting directions and clues while sending students on educational scavenger hunts.

- \* Solution Fluency
- \* communication
- \* critical thinking
- \* collaboration
- \* taking direction



**Place scavenger hunt clues and directions for students to follow on Twitter. Have them share progress with their team members and notify others of their progress in real-time.**





# Sharing Video Magic

You can post great video updates on Twitter. Quickly and easily share your news and assignments, creative work, and more.

- \* publishing
- \* creativity
- \* Media Fluency
- \* digital production
- \* journaling
- \* networking



## SKILLS



## Twitter Video Apps [Links]

**TwitLENS:** a simple site with full instructions for uploading

**Periscope:** app made by Twitter for easy Twitter video tweets

**TwitCam:** for live video streaming on Twitter



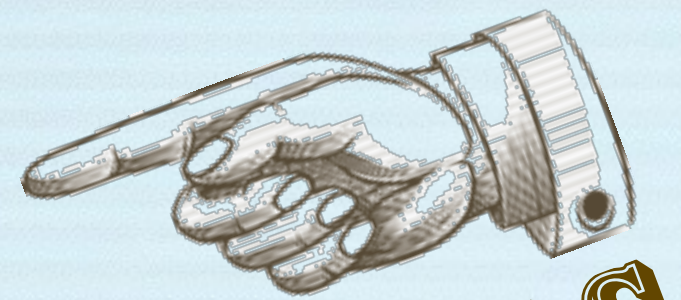
Teachers and students can share videos of skits and scenes, tutorials and walkthroughs, video journals, and anything else relevant and interesting to lessons and to student life.



# Field Trip Progress

The power of Twitter can keep all students and teachers up-to-date on field trips and class excursions both local and abroad.

- \* communication
- \* collaboration
- \* distance learning
- \* focus
- \* networking
- \* Media Fluency



## SKILLS



**Using Twitter on field trips and classroom excursions, any student can post updates with text or quick video, and even share some teachable moments with friends and peers.**



Just posted a photo @ Smithsonian National Art Museum Portrait Gallery Esri Reception [instagram.com/p/24Wsn2reKG/](https://www.instagram.com/p/24Wsn2reKG/)



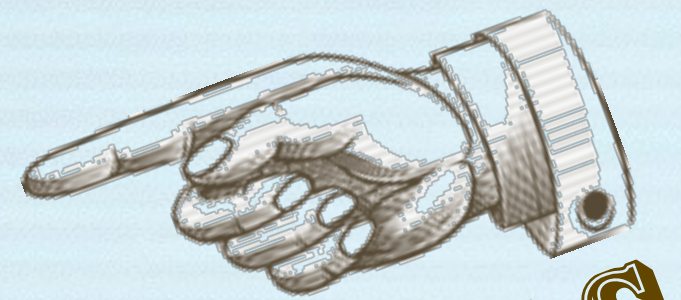
Watch President Obama's "Virtual Field Trip" with students around the country at 10:50am ET → [go.wh.gov/BooksForAll](https://www.whitehouse.gov/BooksForAll) #BooksForAll



# Meme Tracking

What's trending on Twitter can be a valuable exercise in Information and Media Fluencies by getting students to do some "meme-tracking."

- \* research skills
- \* sociology
- \* communication
- \* Media Fluency
- \* analyzing trends
- \* Information Fluency



## SKILLS



**Choose ads and creative meme examples to track using Twitter. Examine how they develop and how people are responding to them. This shows how ideas spread virally.**



**The Independent** @Independent · 7h  
Delta just made airplane safety videos interesting ind.pn/1dmb5Xr



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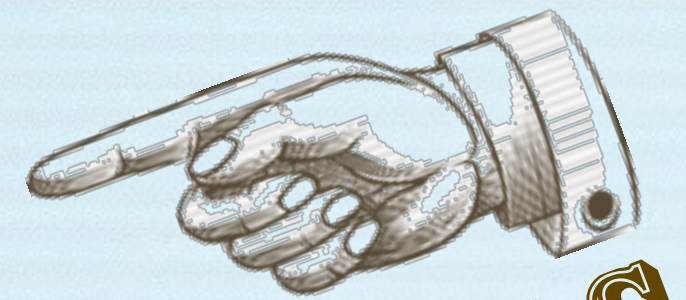




# Twitter Training

This is a must for all teachers who want to make Twitter a part of their classroom. Learn all about Twitter, and guide your students.

- \* communication
- \* collaboration
- \* social media
- \* digital media
- \* technology
- \* Media Fluency



## SKILLS



## Twitter Training [Links]

[The Teacher's Guide to Twitter \(Edudemic\)](#)

[Teacher Training Videos \(TTV\)](#)

[Guide to Using Twitter in Your Own Classroom \(KQED\)](#)

[TeachersFirst Twitter Resources](#)

[Twitter Help Center for Educators](#)



**As you adopt Twitter in teaching practices, develop guidelines and some tip training for your students. This will ensure that your students align together in using Twitter.**





Get useful information from others by following either subject- or topic-specific hashtags.



Establish followers by offering useful Twitter content from your own unique expertise.

# Teachers in the Twitter-verse

Sure, you bet all you digital educators out there get to have some fun! If you want to connect with other pros in your field, expand your PLN, or share professional resources, Twitter can make it happen. Be sure to check out the links below for great Twitter teacher resources!



[The Teacher's Guide to Twitter](#)  
[Twitter and Growing Your PLN](#)  
[Twitter Tools and Web Apps](#)  
[Twitter4Teachers Wiki](#)



Share links, photos, and videos with the colleagues who are following you, or who you may be following.



Nurture your own professional development with Twitter connections and updates.

# Twitter Hashtags for Education

Where would a Twitter book be without a whole mess of hashtags? These are some of the most popular on the education feeds today. Join the conversations and tweet with colleagues old and new!

## General Purpose Tags

#edchat—connect with educators worldwide  
#education—topics from class management to homeschooling  
#GlobalEd—all about global education  
#Langchat—a place for language teachers  
#edtech—relating to the use of technology in education  
#edapp—all about educational apps  
#digitalcitizenship—all about digital citizenship practices  
#Bullying—bullying resources, help, and support  
#cyberbullying—resources on cyberbullying  
#comments4kids—find blogs to comment and post on  
#gamemooc—everything to do with gamed based learning  
#ptchat—a special domain for parents  
#lrnchat—connect with other educators and discuss learning  
#urbaned—topics on urban education  
#educoach—instructional coaching for improving education  
#dtK12chat—chat about design thinking in education

## Subject-Specific Tags

#scichat—Science  
#engchat—English  
#SSChat—Social Studies  
#HistoryTeacher—History  
#STEM—STEM Education  
#PhysicsEd—Physics  
#artsed—Arts and Education  
#Ecbusteach—Economics and Business Studies  
#musedchat—Music  
#eltchat—English Language Education  
#edtechchat—educational technology and citizenship  
#PEGeeks—PE, Technology  
#RETeacher—Religious Studies  
#GeographyTeacher—Geography  
#ASEChat—Association of Science and Education  
#langchat—Foreign Language Education

# Meet your new best friend in the classroom.

The **Solution Fluency Activity Planner** is an exciting collaborative tool for creating and exploring lesson plans that engage, inspire, and enable today's modern students.

- Access thousands of inquiry and PBL units
- Create your own custom lesson plans
- Align with your curricular standards
- Collaborate with a global network of educators

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global digital  
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