Twitter For Teachers

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@stemjen on Twitter
What is Twitter?

- Micro-blogging
- Messaging
- Sharing
- Networking
How does Twitter work?

• Users post "tweets" to their account

• Followers can see these tweets
  o can be public or private
  o can include #hashtags or @mentions
  o can also include links, pictures, videos, etc.
Why should you use Twitter?

✓ Interacting and Networking [Twitter4Teachers](#)
✓ Gathering Resources
✓ Sharing Resources
✓ Building your PLN (personal learning network)
Perceptions of Twitter

What we perceive…

What it can be…
Getting started

1. Set up your account at www.twitter.com
   Enter your name, email, and a password.

2. Choose a username
   Your real name is best—if it’s available
   Variation of your name
   Nickname is okay
   Keep it simple

3. Click Create my account
Your Profile is IMPORTANT!

Tweak your settings

- Upload your picture
- Enter your info - bio is important, but brief
  (160 characters or less)
Tweets, hashtags and trends...

Common Twitter Terms

- tweet
- retweet
- mention
- direct message
- Hashtag
- trend
- twittersphere
- #followfridays
- #teachertuesdays
Using Twitter Commands

*Twitter is a conversation*

**General tweets** - all see

Address someone specific, but all see - use `@mention`
`@stemjen how are you?`

**Direct message** - private to you and that person
`d stemjen can you bring my laptop?`

**#Hashtag** will mark a tweet or categorize it
`#tctcpd12` - click the hashtag to see what others are saying about that topic
I'm ready to Tweet!

Remember tweets are 140 characters or less - no life stories here, people!
Find people at wefollow.com, search by hashtag (#edchat)

How often? Depends on the value.

- Skip blow by blow of your life...most people aren't interested
- Be interesting, helpful or entertaining
- Be careful! Anyone can get a Twitter account
- If tweeting locations - tweet *after* you have gone, not before
- Leave a positive digital footprint - remember even Admin's tweet...
Example of mobile apps for Twitter:

**iPhone/iPad/Blackberry**

**Twitter**
- ccarman602
- pharesr
  - The more I hear about iCyte the more I like it. #oetc11
  - @FarmGirl44615 VERY COOL! Thanks
- pharesr
  - A CONVERSATION not a presentation. Edmodo: Group Code:11zwiz Today, 1:15 C213....Please join us. #oetc11
- FarmGirl44615
  - Uploaded my pdf with links to the eTech site. #OFBF social media guide is linked, as is National Lab Network- Skype a Scientist #oetc11
- pharesr
  - @mr_collins Smart idea...how about a live stream?

**Tweetdeck**
- Search: #oetc11
  - @oetc11 Can upload your tube videos and others to teashertube or expossureroom
  - schinker
    - Who has a Big Blue Button server set up that @mr_collins can use this afternoon? #oetc11
  - weidiana
    - #oetc11 surveygizmo Surveys to put in your website
  - lilhouston

**HootSuite**
- Streams
  - Home Feed
  - FarmGirl44615
    - Where do I go on the etech site to find presenter uploads? #oetc11
  - pharesr
    - The more I hear about iCyte the more I like it. #oetc11
  - FarmGirl44615
    - VERY COOL! Thanks
  - pharesr
    - A CONVERSATION not a presentation. Edmodo: Group Code:11zwiz Today, 1:15 C213....Please join us. #oetc11
  - FarmGirl44615
    - Uploaded my pdf with links to the eTech site. #OFBF social media guide is linked, as is National Lab Network- Skype a Scientist #oetc11
Rules for happiness on Twitter

1. Upload a picture for your 'avatar' so people can see who they're talking to.
2. Put something in your 'bio' so people can get some idea of what you're about.
3. Be interactive
4. Be yourself, not phony.
5. Don't be all about yourself, take an interest in others.
6. Share resources and ideas, instead of everyday mundane occurances.
7. Retweet other people. If you like it, retweet it.
8. Follow people with similar interests, jobs, etc.
9. Don't follow celebrities - they don't follow you, but they will jam up your feed.
10. Look for people who are interactive, and tweet about things that are up your alley.
Who should I Follow??

@OHEducation
@rbryne - technology for teachers
@Edudemic
@edutopia

And me of course @stemjen
What educators use Twitter?
The Educator's PLN - http://edupln.com
How can Twitter be used in school?

• Direct communication
• Reminders/Announcements
• Polling
• Collaboration [www.tweetworks.com](http://www.tweetworks.com)
• News and Views
• Practice a foreign language
• Writing in brief
Hashtag Resources

The Most Popular Hashtags

#followfridays – Other tweeters suggest good people to follow
#teachertuesdays - Teacher Tuesday where educators suggest others to follow

Education

#edchat – Education, worldwide (lots of US teachers). A really useful hashtag if you are interested in tweeting with a wide range of educators worldwide.
#schools – Massively wide ranging but used far less than #edchat or #ukedchat
#teaching – This hashtag seems to largely be used for jobseeking, FYI
#lrnchat – Learning chat
#kinderchat – hashtag for discussing kindergarten aged children
#EdChatIE – The educational hashtag for Ireland for all three levels
#ukedchat – UK Education
#GlobalEd – Education with a global dimension
Specific Areas / Roles

#pgce – this is a widely used hashtag and is a great way to share ideas and support

#gtchat – for tweets related to gifted and talented education

#esl – English as a second language, this seemed to have more relevant tweets than #EFL

#Bullying – especially good for finding bullying resources or help and support if bullying is an issue though it is not confined to school bullying

#cpchat – connected principals discussion

#ntchat - new teachers, (#nqtchat seems to have lapsed)

#spedchat – special educational needs. Live chat every Tuesday night at 8:30 EST for special education related topics

#homeschool – everything related to home schooling, seems to be far more widely used than #hsc

#playoutdoors – outdoor play and learning ideas

#TLChat – is the hashtag for Teacher Librarians’ discussions/resources

#ESDGC – Education for sustainability and global citizenship
#slide2learn – iDevices and learning
#vitalcpd – effective use of technology in the classroom

**Subject Specific**

#mathchat – mathematics
#scichat – science
#engchat – English
#artsed – the arts in education
#musedchat – music
#eltchat – english language teacher
#STEM – widely used for posts and resources in STEM educatio
  #SSChat – social studies chat
#RETeacher – Religious Education
#HistoryTeacher – History
#GeographyTeacher – Geography
#ASEChat – Association of science and education weekly chat Monday 8-9pm GMT
#PhysicsEd – Physics
Technology

#edtech – a very wide range of tweets relating to the use of technology in education.
#elearning – eLearning topics
#mlearning – the use of mobile technologies in education, also #mobilelearning though this is less used
#edapp – educational apps
#gbl - games based learning
Questions?

Resources gathered from:
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Chris Carman (@ccarman602)
Thank you!

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Follow me on Twitter!
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