

TWITTER

Twitter



I know all of you have heard the word “Twitter” and “hashtags”. It’s time for you to learn what all the fuss is about. Our students are using it because it is fast, easy, fun, and social. You know those Millenials.....Read on so you can be “in the know”.

Twitter is an online social networking service and microblogging service that enables its users to send and read text-based messages of up to 140 characters, known as "tweets". Since its launch, Twitter has become one of the ten most visited websites on the Internet, and has been described as "the SMS of the Internet.

Question: What Exactly Is 'Twitter'? What Is 'Tweeting'?

Answer: Twitter is microblogging. Twitter, and 'tweeting', is about broadcasting daily short burst messages to the world, with the hope that your messages are useful and interesting to someone. Conversely, Twitter is about discovering interesting people online, and following their burst messages for as long as they are interesting.

OK, So Why Is Twitter So Popular? Why Do Millions of People Follow Other Tweeters?

In addition to its relative novelty, Twitter's big appeal is how rapid and scan-friendly it is: you can track hundreds of interesting tweeters, and read their content with a glance. This is ideal for our modern attention-deficit world....**the Millenials.**

How Does Twitter Work?

Twitter is very simple to use as broadcaster or receiver. You join with a free account and Twitter name. Then you send broadcasts daily, or even hourly. Go to the 'What's Happening' box, type 140 characters or less, and click 'Tweet'. You will most likely include some kind of hyperlink.

To receive Twitter feeds, you simply find someone interesting (celebrities included), and 'follow' them to subscribe to their tweet microblogs. Once a person becomes uninteresting to you, you simply 'unfollow' them.

It's that simple.

Why Do People Send Burst Messages Through Twitter?

People send Twitter 'tweets' for all sorts of reasons: vanity, attention, shameless self-promotion of their web pages, boredom. The great majority of tweeters do this microblogging as a recreational thing, a chance to shout out to the world and revel in how many people choose to read your stuff.

But there is a growing minority of tweeters who send out some really useful content. And that's the real value of Twitter: it provides a stream of quick updates from friends,

family, scholars, news journalists, and experts. It empowers people to become amateur journalists of life, describing and sharing something that they found interesting about their day.

Yes, that means there is a lot of drivel on Twitter. But at the same time, there is a growing base of really useful news and knowledge content on Twitter. You'll need to decide for yourself which content is worth following there.

Views this short video on what Twitter is and see what it actually looks like:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EcH8jWXzEac>



Twitter 101—Key Terms

- **Twitter**—an online social networking platform that allows users to send and receive text-based message, or “tweets.”
- **Tweets**—text-based messages of up to 140 characters (letters, symbols, words, spaces, & punctuation.)
- **@**—a way of referring to another user, for example, my username is @tysonkimberly
- **Twitter Feed**—the running list of tweets
- **RT**—A retweet— or RT—when you share the tweet of one user with all of your Twitter followers.
- **MT**—a modified retweet— or MT—that’s been modified or edited in some way
- **Reply**—when you directly respond to a specific user beginning with their username
- **DM**—direct message—You can only direct message to someone you follow. You can preface your tweet with DM @tysonkimberly, for example.
- **Follower**—Users that you follow on Twitter. On Twitter, following is not necessarily a two-way street. You can follow users and they may or may not choose to follow you.
- **Hashtags**—A hashtag (#) is a word or phrase preceded by a “#.” By using hashtags, you can aggregate tweets around that topic. Hashtags (#) help you focus on tweets around a specific topic. You can also add a hashtag to any tweet. Just follow the tweet with an appropriate hashtag and it will appear in the group. For example, here’s a recent conversational tweet with hashtags—*It’s Terrific Tuesday! What are you reading today? #elemteachers #literacy #reading*
- Sometimes groups meet at a specific time around a hashtag. For example, folks meet around the hashtag #titletalk once a month on Sunday nights at 8 pm EST. Colby Sharp and Donalyn Miller moderate the online meetings around a topic such as favorite read alouds, graphic novels, teaching with short texts, or book lists, to name just a few. So when you log in at that time and type in the hashtag, you’ll experience a real-time, online conversation around the topic.

Hashtags for Education

If you’re new to Twitter or you haven’t bothered with hashtags, this list should be a handy reference tool. It is by no means comprehensive; however, it will give you a running start for where to join in on conversations and information about education. Many of the chat groups have a moderator/s and meet at specific times each week or month and focus conversations around a specific topic.

Education

- #K12
- #education
- #highered
- #educators
- #administrators
- #edadmin
- #edlead
- #principals
- #cpchat
- #teachers
- #elemteachers
- #ntchat
- #STEM
- #highschool
- #ELL

Education...

- #ece
- #bullying
- #schooldistricts
- #school
- #schoolreform
- #edreform
- #atplc
- #gifted
- #librarians
- #lessonplans

CommonCore

- #commoncore
- #ccchat

Project-Based

- #pbl
- #pblchat

Curriculum

- #books
- #literature
- #math
- #science
- #ArtsEd

College

- #collegebound
- #collegechat
- #ACT/#SAT
- scholarship

Top 5 Most Tweeted

- #education
- #edchat
- #edtech
- #college
- #highered

Homeschool

- #homeschool
- #unschool
- #hw
- #homeschoolers

Reading/Literacy

- #literacy
- #reading
- #ncte
- #titletalk
- #nerdybookclub

Technology

- #mlearning
- #flipclass
- #iPaded
- #EdApps
- #edtech
- #elearning

Chat Groups

- #blendchat
- #satchat (admin)
- #edchat
- #titletalk
- #21stedchat
- #engchat
- #ntchat
- #cpchat
- #tlcchat
- #mathchat
- #spedchat
- #gtchat
- #ptchat
- #cpchat

Twitter 102: Tools for Advanced Users

You may quickly find that you enjoy twitter and benefit professionally from the interaction, pd opportunities, connections, and more. You may want a management system that helps you organize tweets, have several streams open at a time, and more. Here’s a few to check out.

HootSuite: Twitter manager. Easy-to-use interface on desktop & mobile. Up to 10 streams open at a time. Can add other social media platforms. Schedule tweets. *My personal choice.*

TweetDeck: Similar to HootSuite, TweetDeck is Twitter manager. Desktop. Mobile App. Easy to use. Schedule tweets. Have numerous streams open at one time.

SproutSocial
RavenTools
Pluggio
MarketMeSuite