

# 30 Educational uses of Twitter



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1. Teachers can use Twitter to work on spelling using dictations. For example, your students can simply write down a dictated sentence (under 280 characters) that contains spellings they learned in class. Then they can tweet their dictations directly and correct them as a group. There are various apps to help. For instance, many tablets feature auto-correction actions that can be turned on or off.
2. Use Twitter to inform your students about their homework assignments. This can transform an unappealing task into one that's more fun.
3. Use Twitter to spark debates about hot-button issues, such as whether or not to ban YouTube at school.
4. Complement classroom material. For example, when studying volcanos, tweet your students a link so they can follow the official account of Hawaii's Volcanoes National Park: @HI\_Volcanoes\_NP).
5. Use Twitter to answer all kinds of questions from your students. For example, for questions about dependent and independent variables, tweet all your students the answer at, e.g., <https://www.thoughtco.com/independent-and-dependent-variables-differences-606115>
6. Use Twitter to keep your students informed about the latest news that they might find interesting, such as natural disasters. You can also point your students to informative social networks.
7. Encourage your students to use Twitter to gather constructive feedback from their classmates. For example, following a presentation, they could identify strengths and weakness using 280 characters.
8. Send encouraging messages to your students. The night before an exam, you could tweet a message saying, "I know that you're all studying for tomorrow's exam. Stay strong!"
9. Flipped teaching. Send your students tweets with a link to a video and a related task to perform.
10. In language and drama classes, your students could send tweets in the "voice" of a character from a play that they're studying. Younger students could tweet in a voice that they're familiar with, for instance, a cartoon character.
11. Prepare a question and answer review on Twitter the night before an exam.
12. Get your students to read more by asking them to present three books they've read on Twitter, in less than 280 characters.
13. Have your students write a collective story. Send them a "speaking order" so they can tell the story in turn, one sentence at a time. You could prime them with an opening line, such as, "Yesterday, when I woke up, you'll never guess what happened to me." Students can then take turns writing the story on Twitter. It might take several turns to complete the story.
14. Have your students follow a news feed that relates to what they're learning. Twitter has feeds on practically every subject under the sun.
15. Encourage your students to reflect on what they've learned by sharing their thoughts on Twitter.
16. During school outings, ask your students to send tweets with images of the places they visit.
17. In math class, conduct a survey on Twitter and present the results and statistics to the class.
18. To foster openness of mind, ask your students to tweet messages of encouragement to those in need, for example, after disasters.
19. To promote social involvement in class, ask your students to name the five people that they most like to follow on Twitter. Then ask them why.
20. Get your students to write a poem with less than 280 characters. You could start by tweeting your students an extract from a poem, and then let their imagination take over.
21. Have your students recommend works of art to their classmates on Twitter.
22. Teachers who embrace innovation could occasionally ask their students to tweet their questions in class when they're learning new material.
23. Encourage greater social involvement in school life, for example, by creating a Twitter slogan campaign to raise awareness about cyberbullying.
24. To teach new ways to use Twitter, get your students to help you create a Guess Who activity. Students can take turns asking a question for everyone to answer.
25. Set up contacts with different types of professionals through Twitter.
26. Conduct a Tweet Chat to inform parents and the wider community about your students' academic and extracurricular achievements.
27. Start an awareness campaign on Twitter about climate warming, using messages and videos prepared by your students.
28. Your students can present their assignments on Twitter and explain why they chose to do them.
29. Your students can recommend films on Twitter to their classmates and friends.
30. Teachers can also use Twitter for their own professional development by following educators and other professionals to keep abreast of developments in education.

