**Android**

MT4T
Mobile Technology for Teachers

# MOBILE TECHNOLOGY FOR TEACHERS

# Twitter
## for Teachers

### Android Mobile Devices | 2nd Edition

# Twitter for Teachers

## Android Mobile Devices | 2nd Edition

**Mobile Technology for Teachers (MT4T)**

*A Teacher Resource Kit Using Mobile Technology*

*for 21st Century Learning in Southeast Asia*

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# Introduction

Welcome to **Mobile Technology for Teachers (MT4T)**, a teacher resource kit that uses mobile technology for twenty-first-century learning in Southeast Asia. It contains information, resources, examples, and best practices in using mobile technology for personal and professional growth. While MT4T recognizes the wide array of mobile technologies available today, it primarily focuses on smartphones and tablets.

MT4T is designed to provide teachers with easy access to information on the use of mobile technology for their own personal and professional growth. It will enable teachers to navigate mobile devices beyond the typical Short Messaging Service (SMS) or text messaging and the call function. It is intended to help teachers recognize the huge potential of mobile devices as tools for teaching and learning.

MT4T will equip teachers with a basic understanding of and skills related to operating the three most popular mobile platforms—Android, iOS, and Windows. Also contained in this resource kit are discussions on the use of built-in apps (including examples to expand their functionality) and social networking and blogging apps, which ultimately aim to foster collaboration among teachers in Southeast Asia and beyond.

MT4T is composed of a set of ten (10) e-books available in three mobile platforms—Android, iOS, iPadOS, and Windows. The e-books include the following:

1. Mobile Technology for Teachers (MT4T): A Teacher Resource Kit for 21st Century Learning in Southeast Asia
2. An Introduction to Teachers' Personal and Professional Learning Networks for Teachers for 21st Century Learning
3. Uses and Functionalities of Mobile Devices for Teachers
4. e-Citizenship: An e-Book for Teachers about Cyber Wellness and Digital Citizenship
5. Facebook for Teachers
6. **Twitter for Teachers**
7. Edmodo for Teachers
8. Blogging for Teachers
9. LinkedIn for Teachers
10. Annotated Resources for Teachers

Users of MT4T are supported by a website, which makes the e-books available in two file formats: EPUB and PDF. Some of the e-books are available in both formats, while others, like this e-book, *Twitter for Teachers*, is available only in PDF.

Nonetheless, both e-book formats work well on most e-reader apps. For optimum performance, it is suggested that you access the MT4T resources using the SEAMEO INNOTECH Reader, which is designed to work consistently across mobile platforms running Android, iOS, and Windows. The SEAMEO INNOTECH Reader also provides users with additional features such as creating bookmarks, highlighting important phrases, and even creating drawings or doodles on the e-book pages. You can find out more about the other components of the MT4T Resource Kit from the e-book, *"[MT4T: Mobile Technology for Teachers](#)."*

Unique to the Resource Kit are discussions on using mobile technology to promote higher-order thinking skills (HOTS) and values among both students and teachers. Links to teaching and learning resources that promote HOTS have been provided in each e-book. Issues related to 21$^{st}$-century teaching and learning such as proper etiquette and digital citizenship are also discussed in several chapters of the e-books.

## Twitter for Teachers (Android Mobile Devices | 2$^{nd}$ Edition)

This e-book, *"Twitter for Teachers (Android Mobile Devices | 2$^{nd}$ Edition)"* has been updated to include the latest features of Twitter in the Android platform for mobile devices like smartphones and tablets. The e-book will guide you in using Twitter as a platform to establish and expand your professional learning network, and as a tool to showcase your professional expertise, experience, and accomplishments. You can also use this to connect to your other social media accounts, like a WordPress blog site which you may have. Note that the contents of this e-book have been customized for end-users of Android mobile devices. Note further that while the screenshots embedded in this e-book were generated using a tablet, the functionalities of the Twitter app do not have significant differences across Android devices; hence, the instructions contained herein are applicable for both tablets and smartphones.

# Chapter 1: What Is Twitter?

**Twitter** is a social networking platform that is a "blend of instant messaging, blogging, and texting."[1] It enables users to post messages known as "tweets" as well as photos, videos, and animated GIFs (Graphics Interchange Format). Compared with a Short Message Service (SMS) or text message, that has a limit of 160 characters per single message[2] and sent via mobile phone service, a tweet can contain up to 280 characters and does not require a phone number, only access to the Internet.

**Twitter** is easy to use. It is the same as sending an SMS to a group; only your target recipients or "followers" as they are known on **Twitter**, receive your tweets in their **Twitter** feeds. The same is true for those you chose to "follow" on Twitter, that is, you instantly receive all the tweets of the person or organization you are following.

**Twitter** is also popularly known as a microblogging service. A blog is like an online diary or a journal. **Twitter** is considered a microblogging site because users can post short commentaries, musings, quotes, and other information within the 280-character tweet limit.

Find out more about what **Twitter** is and how it works from these online articles:

> **"How to Use Twitter Like a Social Media Pro"** by Grace Pinegar (2018) for *G2 Crowd* at https://learn.g2crowd.com/what-is-twitter

> **"What is Twitter & How Does It Work?"** by Paul Gil (2018) for *Lifewire.com* at https://www.lifewire.com/what-exactly-is-twitter-2483331

## *Why You Should Be on Twitter?*

People have various reasons for being on **Twitter**. By carefully selecting who to "follow," you can get a stream of quick updates from friends and family or even journalists, scholars, and educational experts. **Twitter** is a way to learn about the world through another person's eyes. It serves as a gateway to discovering interesting people from different parts of the world who share the same passion and interests as you do.

It can also be about building a following of people who are interested in you and in what you want to share—whether it is your work or your latest endeavors.[3]

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[1] Gil, Paul. November 24, 2018. *What is Twitter & How Does It Work?* Sourced from Lifewire website. Last accessed on 26 November 2020 at https://www.lifewire.com/what-exactly-is-twitter-2483331.

[2] Pirie, Justin. ND. *SMS Character Limit.* Sourced from Twilio Docs. Last accessed on 26 November 2020 at https://www.twilio.com/docs/glossary/what-sms-character-limit.

[3] Ibid.

**Twitter** can help build relationships with other teachers. In fact, many teachers are now turning to **Twitter** to expand their professional learning networks (PLN) and create opportunities to connect, share resources, and network with fellow educators. Having a PLN provides access to various conferences and online learning posts or discussions where they do not have to be physically present. For more information on PLN, you may read SEAMEO INNOTECH's MT4T e-book *"An Introduction to Teachers' Personal and Professional Learning Networks for 21st Century Learning."*

Similarly, **Twitter** has become an affordable and easily accessed professional development platform. In a November 2011 post from the blog, "Finding Common Ground," Dr. Peter DeWitt wrote, "On days when I am trying to figure out how to help my students...I turn to the experts. I am not referring to the people who we see at conferences where we pay a conference fee to be inspired for an hour. I am referring to our colleagues who are only a password away on Twitter."[4] Being on **Twitter** and following known educational experts or groups is almost like attending seminars online at the flick of a finger for 24/7 and engaging in discussions on educational issues that matter most to you.

**Twitter** also offers a low-cost way to connect with a wide range of people and organizations and reach a larger audience. Celebrities, for instance have taken to **Twitter** to personally connect to their fans because it is both "personal and rapid."

**Twitter** has certainly become the social media platform of choice for a growing number of individuals and groups who are providing and seeking authentic information and useful content. While there remain a lot of tweets about mundane concerns sent through the Twitter social media platform, it is up to you to decide which content is worth following, particularly those that can potentially help you become better as a person and as an educator.

## Why Use Twitter for Education?

Through the years, **Twitter** has become a valuable tool for teachers, both for their professional development and personal growth. Introducing **Twitter** as a learning platform in the classroom allows students to become active participants in their own learning process. Students who may be passive in class can actively engage with the whole class by sending tweets.

Educators Wasim Ahmed and Sergej Lugovic both reviewed existing literatures on the use of Twitter in the classroom[5] and here is the information they gathered:

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4    Caron, Sarah. February 2017. *Using Twitter for Professional Development.* Education World. Retrieved from https://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/using-twitter-for-professional-development.shtml.

5    Ahmed, Wasim and Lugovic, Sergej. 28 September 2016. *Using Twitter as a teaching tool can boost engagement and enrich classroom debate and discourse*, LSE. Retrieved from at http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2016/09/28/using-twitter-as-a-teaching-tool-can-boost-engagement-and-enrich-classroom-debate-and-discourse/

- Gonzalez and Gadbury-Amyot found that the use of Twitter increased student engagement, serving as an excellent resource for question and answer (Q & A) sessions.

- Ricoy and Feliz noted that tweets were often able to direct students to other resources available on the Internet, so the use of Twitter can also allow bringing new, relevant resources into the classroom.

"🐦 Twitter provides a platform for professionals from different fields to communicate with one another and allow particularly shy students to engage with the class." [6]

On the part of the students, they are not just passive receivers of information when they use 🐦 Twitter; instead, they can become active participants and shape their own learning. In a survey conducted via 🐦 Twitter on a selected number of teachers from 22 countries, it was found that teachers believe Twitter can help them build relationships with other teachers and help them direct their own professional development through resources based on their needs. They also claim to have gained greater access to "multiple conferences and online learning posts or discussions where they don't have to be physically present." Likewise, 🐦 Twitter allows them to discover the "latest and best teaching practices, lesson plans, web resources, and (innovative) ideas for the classroom."

According to Erin Miller, an English subject teacher, being on 🐦 Twitter is one of the best career decisions she ever made. After being introduced into the 🐦 Twitter world by a colleague, the inspiring educators Miller followed on the platform rekindled her dwindling excitement and passion for teaching. She now recommends 🐦 Twitter for teachers, not only to learn more about classroom teaching but also to be informed about important educational issues.

The following section sums up what Miller believes are the reasons[7] teachers like you should be on 🐦 Twitter:

- **You can find and share resources on Twitter.** The productivity and generosity of teachers on 🐦 Twitter are inspiring. Miller says that whatever learning resource you need to make, chances are you'll find something on 🐦 Twitter, likely shared by another teacher, which will match your needs and may even introduce you to strategies you have never thought of.

- **You will be informed.** You can learn about the latest educational researches shared by groups on 🐦 Twitter. Miller says she has picked up many useful and practical ideas for the classroom by following the tweets of other teachers.

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[6]    Ibid.

[7]    Miller, Erin. 20 April 2017. *Teachers on Twitter: Why you should join and how to get started.* Teacher Network. Last accessed on 26 November 2020 at
https://www.theguardian.com/teacher-network/2017/apr/20/teachers-on-twitter-why-join-get-started-social-media.

- **You will get a fresh perspective.** You will find that "teachers of all ages and nationalities come together on Twitter and they are excited about the teaching profession, their subjects, and the students they teach." As you associate yourself with these types of people, their enthusiasm and drive can also inspire and motivate you.

- **You will learn to embrace new ideas.** On Twitter, you will realize that there is not just one teaching style. Teachers come from different backgrounds with their own approaches in teaching, many of whom happily share what they know through Twitter.

For additional readings on the value of using Twitter for education, you may check out the following articles:

## Web Resources

**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Web articles**

**"Why Teachers are Turning to Twitter"**
Brendon Hyndman (2018) for *The Conversation*
https://theconversation.com/why-teachers-are-turning-to-twitter-94582

**"The Ultimate Guide to Twitter"**
*The Edublogger*
https://www.theedublogger.com/twitter/

**"10 Reasons Twitter Works in Education"**
*TeachThought*
https://www.teachthought.com/technology/10-reasons-twitter-works-in-education/

**"Why Twitter Matters in Education"**
Brian Sztabnik for the *Talks with Teachers*
http://talkswithteachers.com/?s=why+twitter+matters+in+education

# Chapter 2: Basic Users

Basic users refer to those who have little or no knowledge in using 🐦 **Twitter.** This level of user competence will focus on introducing Twitter, creating a Twitter account, setting up a basic 🐦 **Twitter** profile, and sending a tweet using Android mobile devices. If you are new to 🐦 **Twitter**, we suggest that you carefully study and follow the instructions to become familiar with the basic steps in using Twitter.

## *How to Sign Up for a Twitter Account*

As a basic user, you are advised to create a Twitter account on a personal computer (PC) since it is slightly easier to do compared to using a mobile device. You can then use that account later for your mobile device. If, however, you do not have access to a personal computer, the instructions given will essentially be the same if you use your mobile device to create a Twitter account.

A 🐦 **Twitter** account requires a username—the name by which people will recognize you— apart from your full name. This can be your e-mail address or a nickname. You also need a password. When you create a 🐦 **Twitter** account, you also build a profile on the platform.

Your Twitter profile contains personal information such as your full name, a profile photo, your birthday, where you work, where you live, and more.

1. To set up a 🐦 **Twitter** account, open your web browser and type "https://twitter.com" into the **Address** bar. Note that your browser is the software that you use to search for web pages. Examples of web browsers include Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Microsoft Edge, and Safari. Tap **Sign up.**
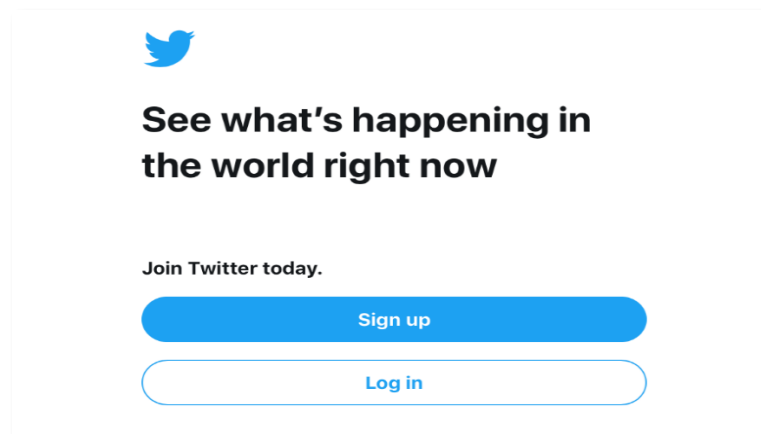
2. Fill in the required information. Start filling in the information needed: your name and either your phone number or email address. Tap **Next**.



3. You will be asked to customize your 🐦 **Twitter** experience in terms of the advertisements (ads) that you will see on your feed and where else you will see 🐦 **Twitter** content as you browse the Internet. Note that these options have been pre-selected for you. Read carefully what it means to activate these settings. Just tap the checked setting if you decide to remove the selection, or leave it as it is, and then, tap **Next.**
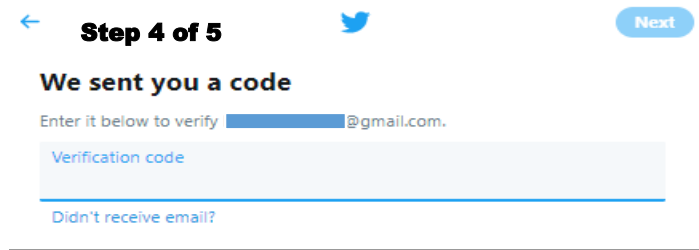


4. Review the details you entered. It is suggested that you also read 🐦 **Twitter**'s **Terms of Service**, the **Privacy Policy**, and the **Cookie Use** for your information and guidance. Once done, tap **Sign up**.
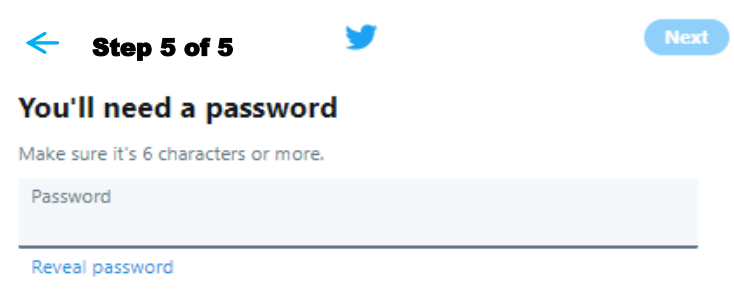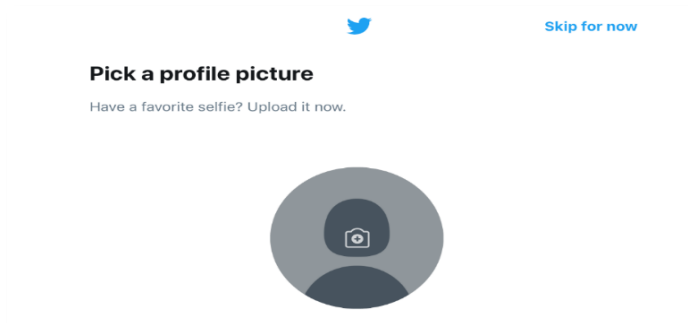
5. Enter the six-digit code that you will receive either on the phone number or on the e-mail address that you used for signing up. Then, tap **Next.**



6. Now, assign a password that you will use to access your Twitter account and tap **Next**.



7. Once finished, pick a profile picture. You can tap **Skip for now** if you would rather do it later.



8. Now, describe yourself in 160 characters, or tap **Skip for now** if you need more time to think about what you want to put here.

9. ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** will ask you several other options to customize your user experience. Among these are connecting your address book (if there is one in your PC). This allows ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** to automatically suggest to follow people whom you know and are also on ![Twitter icon] **Twitter**; provide you the profiles of people whom you might know and see who they are following; provide a selection of topics you might be in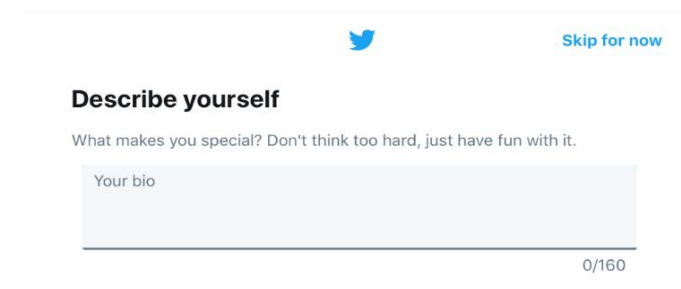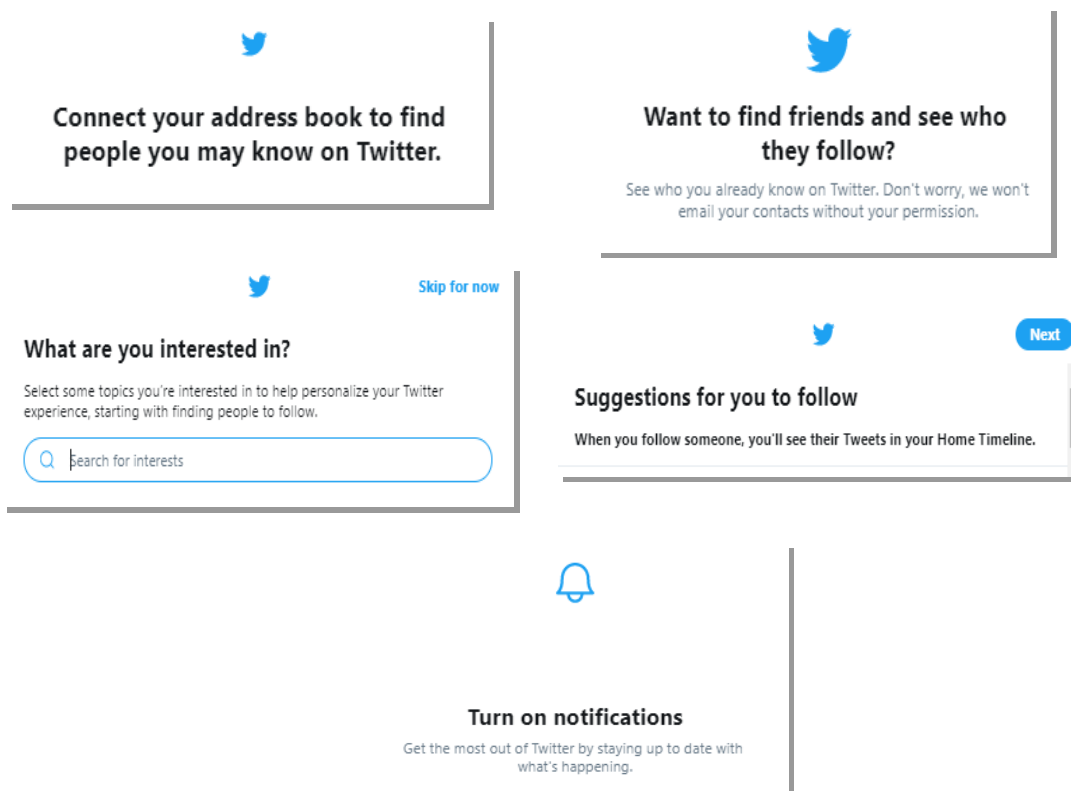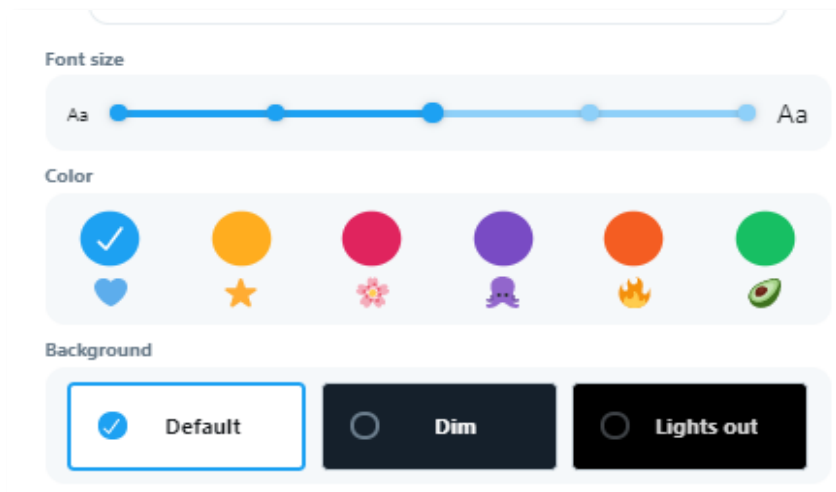terested in to make your ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** use more personalized; suggest ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** accounts that you can choose to follow; and turn on notifications to get the most out of ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** by regularly giving you updates on what's happening in the ![Twitter icon] **Twitter** world. You also have the option to either skip any or all these extra steps by tapping **Skip for now** or **Next**.

**Connect your address book to find people you may know on Twitter.**

**Want to find friends and see who they follow?**

See who you already know on Twitter. Don't worry, we won't email your contacts without your permission.

Skip for now

**What are you interested in?**

Select some topics you're interested in to help personalize your Twitter experience, starting with finding people to follow.

Q Search for interests

Next

**Suggestions for you to follow**

When you follow someone, you'll see their Tweets in your Home Timeline.

**Turn on notifications**

Get the most out of Twitter by staying up to date with what's happening.

10. Once you go through the additional settings, you will be directed to the main home screen with a quick customization on the color and size of the text, as well as setting the background into dark mode.

**Quickly customize your view**

You can personalize your color and the size of your text, as well as control your dark mode selection, right now. These settings are only visible to you.

**Twitter** ✔ @Twitter · 10m
At the heart of Twitter are short messages called Tweets — just like this one — which can include photos, videos, links, text, and #hashtags!

11. Once done selecting the settings for your view, tap anywhere outside of the message prompt to be directed to your feed. Congratulations! You are now part of 🐦 **Twitter** as you read, "Welcome to Twitter!"
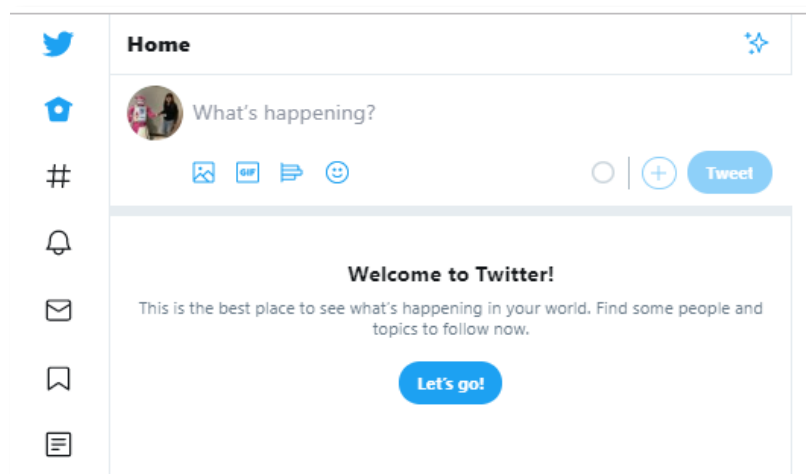


## *How to Install the Twitter App*

You can access 🐦 **Twitter** on a personal computer (PC) or a mobile device such as a smartphone or a tablet. To use 🐦 **Twitter** on a mobile device, you need to install the 🐦 **Twitter** app. Note that we used a Samsung Galaxy Tab A 10.5 Android tablet in developing and testing this e-book.

Your Android mobile device can either be a smartphone or a tablet. On either of these devices, the installation steps are the same. To install 🐦 **Twitter**, follow the step-by-step guide below.

1. Turn on your Android mobile device and tap ▶ **Google Play** to open the app store. This will take you to the store's home page.
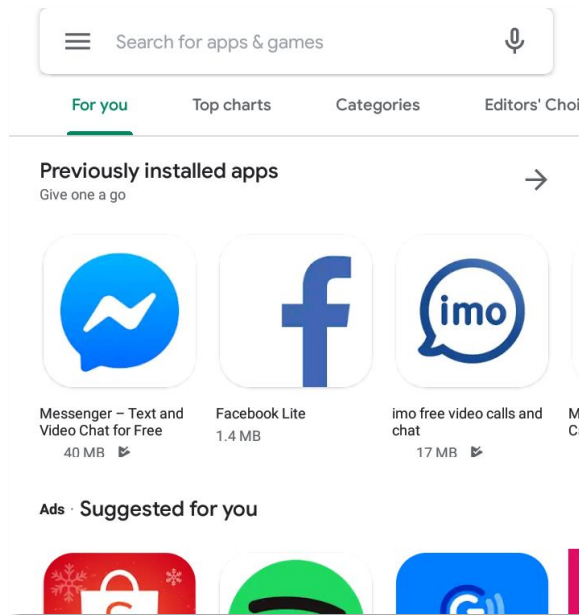


2. Tap 🔍 **Search** found at the bottom of this page. This will open the **Trending[8] Searches** page.
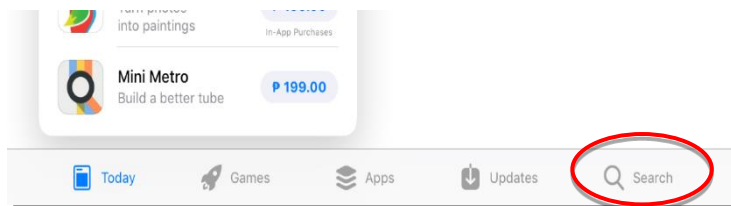


3. Type "twitter" into the 🔍 **Search** field. Note that suggestions will appear as you type. Tap 🐦 **twitter** from among the results to open the download page.



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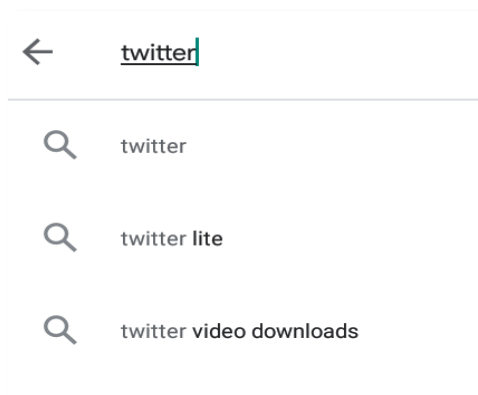
[8] **Trending** on Twitter refers to public news, conversations, or events that generated a lot of Twitter searches making it popular at a particular time. Trends on Twitter can be found in search pages, profile pages, home timelines, and notifications.

4. Tap the **Install** button to download the app. This will start the download process. This may take some time, depending on the speed of your Internet connection. You can track the progress on the page. You will be notified when the download is done.
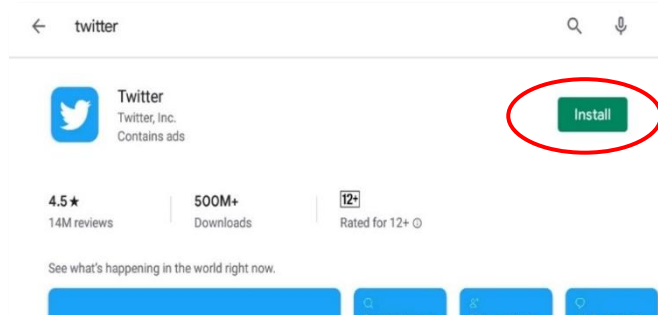


5. Once the downloading is complete, tap **OPEN** to see the 🐦 **Twitter** welcome page. Since you already have a Twitter account, tap **Log in**.
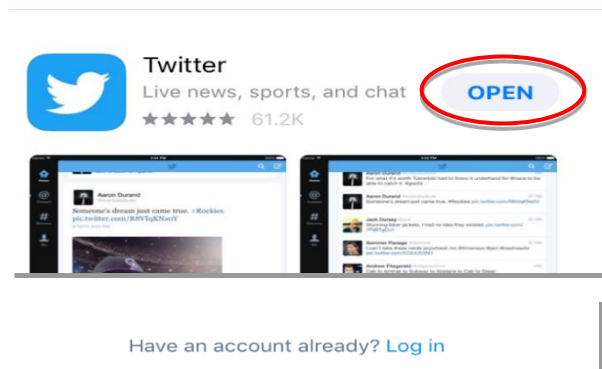


6. You will be prompted to type your credentials. Type your username and password into the respective fields. Then tap the **Sign up** button. If this is your first time to log in, 🐦 **Twitter** will ask you if you want to allow it to use your location. Tap the **Allow** button. You should see your 🐦 **Twitter** home page.
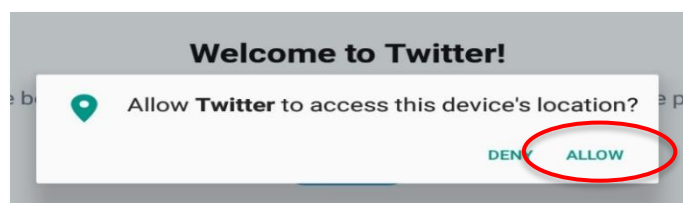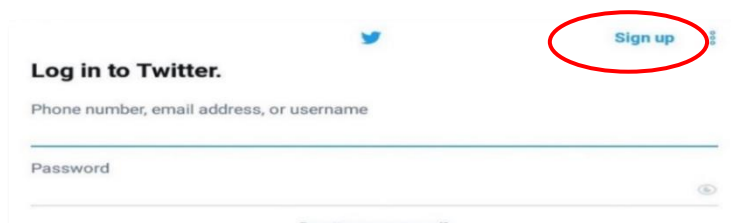
Note that each Tweet is accompanied by an avatar—a picture that shows who the account's owner is. You do not have your own avatar yet, but we will help you upload one later.



7. Congratulations! You have successfully installed 🐦 **Twitter** on your Android mobile device.

## How to Upload an Avatar

Uploading an avatar or a profile photo to your Twitter profile requires the same steps across mobile operating systems (OSs). To upload an avatar, follow the step-by-step guide below.

1. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. Tap the avatar icon on the top left. This will open your profile page.

2.  Tap **Set up profile**. Here, you can edit the basic information on your Twitter account. You can update your profile page, add a cover photo, a short description of yourself, and other details shown on your ✿ **Twitter** page.
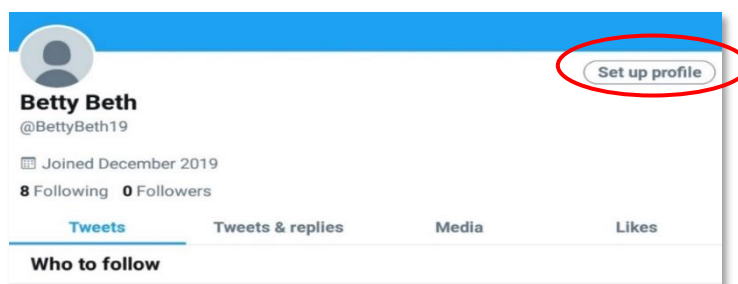


3.  Tap the camera icon 📷 to upload or change your profile picture. You can either take a new picture of yourself or select an existing photo from among those saved on your Android mobile device.
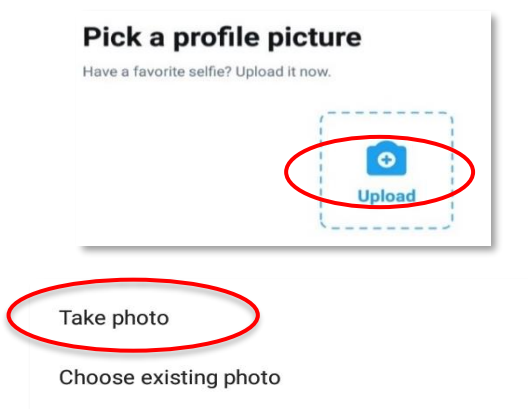


- To take a photo, tap 📷. A list of two options will appear—**Retake** and **Use Photo**. If you are not happy with the photo you just took, tap **Retake** to take a new photo. Otherwise, tap **Use photo**. This will display the photo you took as your profile picture.
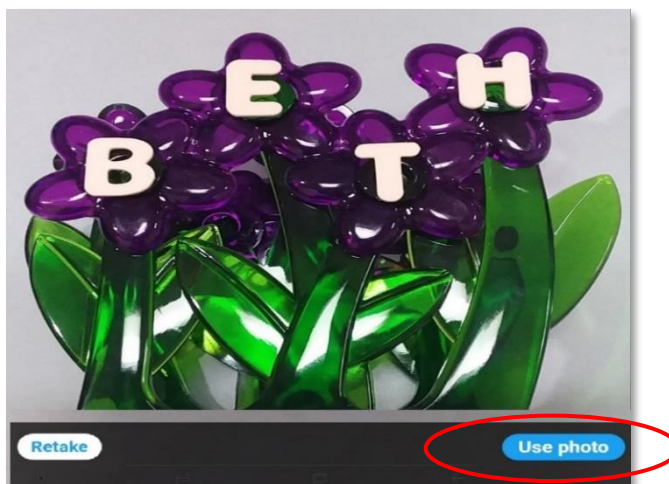
- You also have the option to select an image from your various sources on your mobile device using the option **Choose existing photo**. Tap the ▤ button found at the top left of the screen to open various sources. In this case, we will choose **Gallery**.
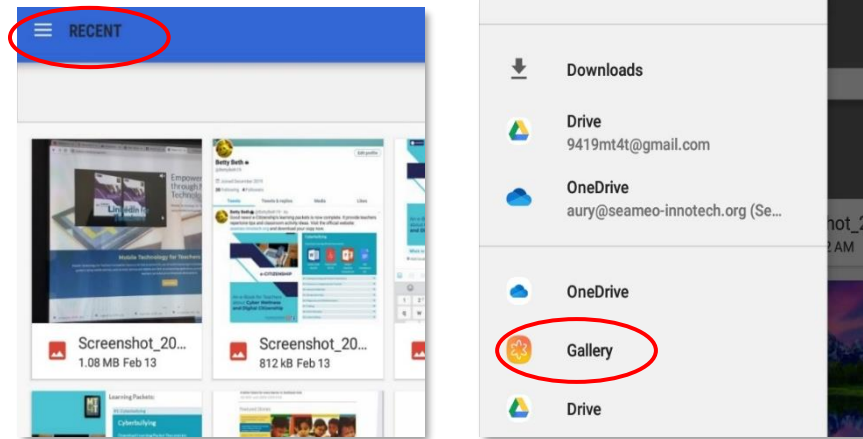


4. Select the **Pictures** Folder and choose an avatar you want to upload.
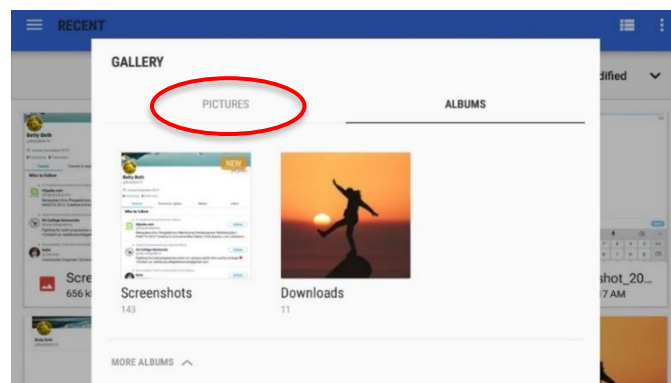


5. Tap the photo you want to use as avatar. Then tap **Apply**.



6. Congratulations! You have just uploaded your first Avatar using an Android mobile device.

## *How to Compose a Tweet*

Once you have completed your [Twitter] **Twitter** profile, you are ready to send your first message known as a "tweet." Remember that a tweet can be up to a maximum of 280 characters in length sent via [Twitter] **Twitter**. A character can be a letter, a number, or a symbol, including spaces. The basic settings for composing a tweet are the same across platforms with very minor differences.

To compose and post a tweet, follow this step-by-step guide.

1. Open the [Twitter] **Twitter** app by tapping it. Since this is your first time to open the app, you will be asked to log in. Tap **Log in** to enter the username and password that you used to register your Twitter account.
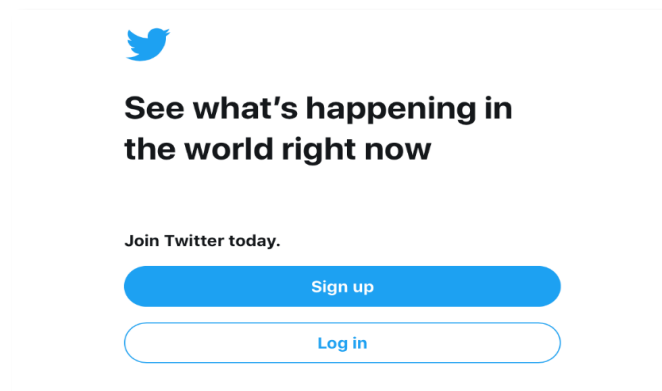


2. You will see your [Twitter] **Twitter feed** (also called a "timeline") where updates from the users you follow, and your posts appear. Look for and tap the [tweet] **tweet** icon found at the bottom right of the screen.
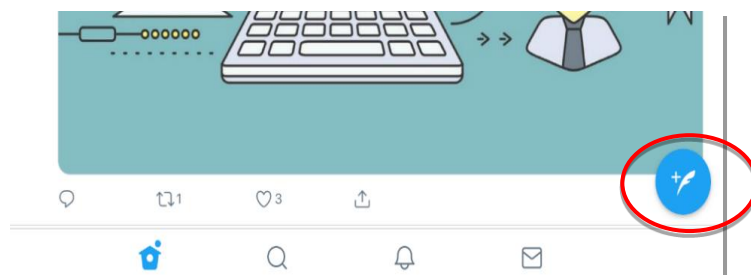


3. Compose your tweet into the **What's happening?** field. Your tweet can be anything you want to share with your followers. You can also do a series of tweets, particularly when you have several things in mind about a topic. You can also add hashtags for easier tracking (learn what hashtag is and how to use it when you get to the next chapter for intermediate users), as well as add images, GIFs[9], and videos to your tweet (learn about this in Chapter 4 for advanced users).

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[9]    GIF or Graphic Interchange Format, is a file extension for a graphics file and is the most common image file format after JPEG used online. TechTarget. Retrieved from  https://whatis.techtarget.com/fileformat/GIF-Bitmap-CompuServe.

4. Notice the circle icon at the bottom. It acts as a counter to help you limit your tweet to the required 280 characters. You will know that you have reached your limit of 280 characters once the blue line comes in full circle. Once done composing a tweet, tap the **Tweet** icon.
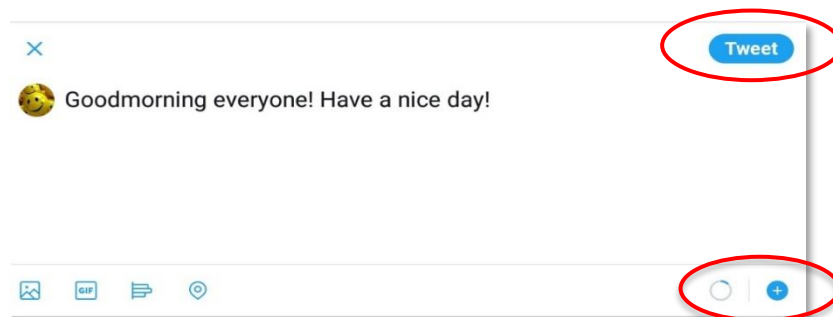


5. Congratulations! You have just posted a tweet using an Android mobile device. You and your 🐦 **Twitter** followers should see this on your respective 🐦 **Twitter** feeds.
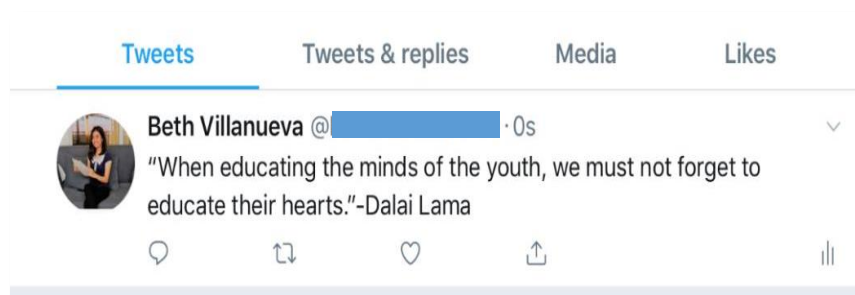


## *How to Follow and Unfollow a Twitter User*

Now that you have a 🐦 **Twitter** account and posted your first tweet, it is time to follow friends, family, colleagues, and even people who interest you but may not personally know. Social networks such as 🐦 **Twitter**, after all, aim to let you connect with others. You need a feature that will let you follow and unfollow other people.

On Twitter, if you want to make a connection with other Twitter users, you need to "follow" them. You follow people that interest you and they can choose to follow you, too. While on Facebook, a message is called a "status update;" on Twitter, it is called a "tweet." You make "friends" with people on Facebook while on Twitter, you "follow" them. People who follow you are called "followers" and they can see all your tweets.

Note that some accounts on Twitter require the owners to approve all followers first before they see their tweets. If someone you wish to follow is like that, you will have to wait until the person approves before you can see his or her tweets. To follow someone, follow this step-by-step guide.

1. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. To follow someone, you need to search for that person's username. To do that, tap 🔍 to open a search page that will let you look for a person or an account on Twitter.



2. 🐦 **Twitter** stores all its users' profiles in a database. Look for a 🐦 **Twitter** account named "SEAMEO INNOTECH" by tapping it into the **Search Twitter** field. Tap 🔍 then type the username from among the results. This will take you to SEAMEO INNOTECH's 🐦 **Twitter** account.

3. Tap the button **Follow.** Note that the button changed into ⟨bell⟩**Following**. That means you successfully followed SEAMEO INNOTECH.



4. If, for whatever reason, you no longer wish to follow an account, just visit the owner's profile and tap **Following**. A message box will pop-up to ask if you want to "stop following" the account. Confirm your decision by tapping **YES**. Note that the button changes back to **Follow**. That means you successfully unfollowed that specific Twitter account.
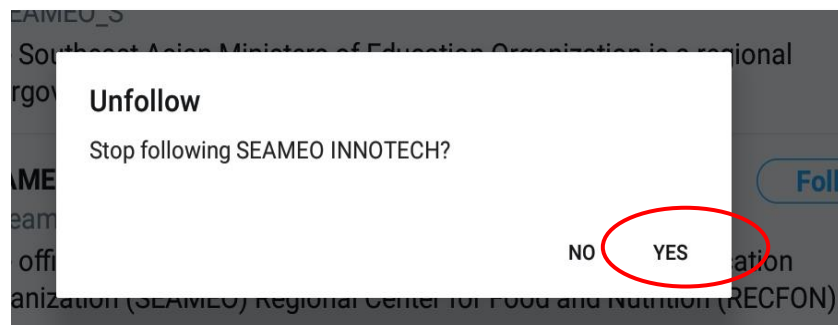


5. Congratulations! You now know how to follow and unfollow someone on Twitter using an Android mobile device.

## How to Reply to a Tweet

A reply on 🐦 **Twitter** is just like any other reply on any platform. You can reply to a tweet sent by anyone you follow. To reply to a tweet, follow the steps below.

1. Look for a tweet you would like to reply to and tap it. The tweet will open in a new window.



2. Tap the 💬 chat icon to open the reply window where you can type your comment or tweet. Note that the account you are replying to (in this case, it is **@educationweek @UNESCO** and **@EdMarketBrief**,) automatically appears above the space provided for your comment/tweet. In addition, the **"at" sign**, represented by the symbol **@**, always appears at the beginning of a username in 🐦 **Twitter**.



3. Type your reply in the **Tweet your reply** space (see Drafts). Then tap the **Reply** button (see top right). You should see your reply on your feed.
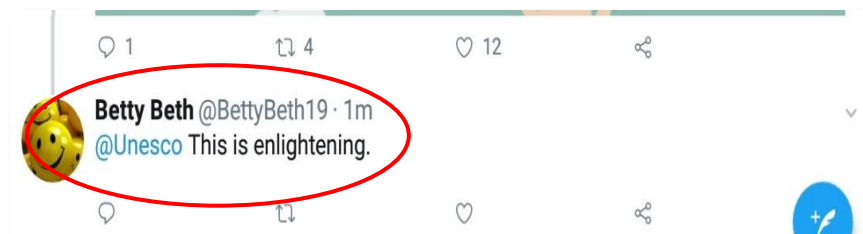


4. Congratulations! You have just tweeted your first reply to somebody else's tweet using your Android mobile device.

Intermediate users refer to those who are already familiar with using basic 🐦 **Twitter** features on a mobile device and are ready to learn to do more complicated tasks. This section will teach you about hashtags, direct messages (DMs), and retweets, as well as how to protect your privacy on 🐦 **Twitter** and adhere to proper 🐦 **Twitter** etiquette.

## What Is a Hashtag?

It should not take you too long to notice the presence of hashtags, represented by the hash symbol **#**. A hashtag is a label that makes it easy for users to find tweets related to a certain topic. If, for instance, you want to look for all tweets related to 21$^{st}$–century teachers, all you need to do is type the hashtag "#21stcenturyteacher" or "#21stcenturyeducator" on the search field. Note that hashtags are not case sensitive, but they only work if there are no spaces in-between words.

You can search for various hashtags to follow or research on a certain topic. It can be related to an event, a television (TV) show, a noteworthy cause, a breaking news story, or a movie. To look for a hashtag, just type the hashtag into the **Search Twitter** field then tap the one you are interested in from the list of suggestions that will appear, and you will see all the results.

You can also create your own hashtag if you want, just add it to every related tweet you will post. Some generic hashtags like "#education" already exist. If you want to add your own posts to the #education collection, use the hashtag with your tweets.

1. Tweeting with a hashtag is just like tweeting normally, with an additional step—adding your desired hashtag. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. Tap the 🖋 icon to open a message window. Type your tweet into the **What's happening?** field. Do not tap the **Tweet** button yet. Instead add the hashtag, "#education" (and any other relevant hashtag), to your tweet.
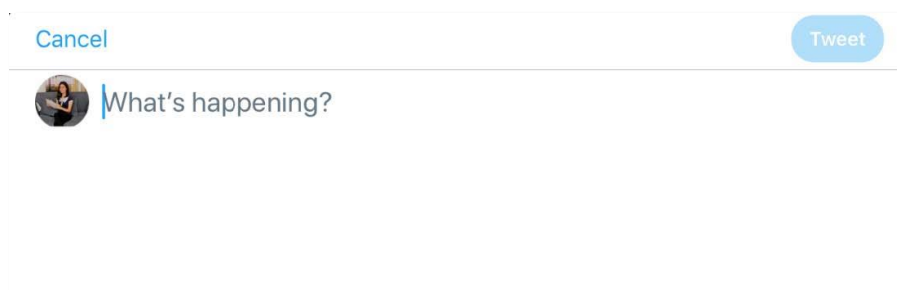
2. Now, tap the **Tweet** button. You should see your tweet with a hashtag in your feed.
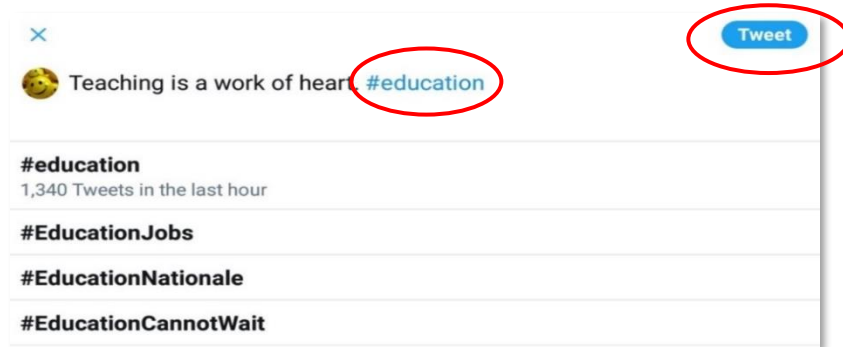


3. Congratulations! You have just posted your first tweet with a hashtag using an Android mobile device.
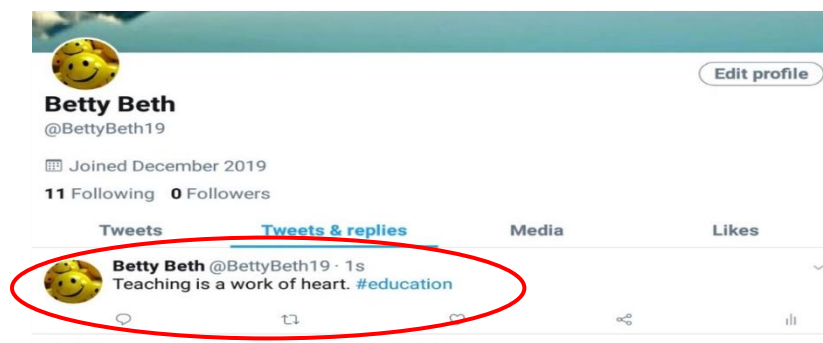


## What Does Trending Mean?

"Trending" is a term used to refer to anything that is currently popular, widely discussed, and shared online and/or offline by many people. On **Twitter**, this refers to topics that have gained attention or popularity over a certain period, generated thousands of tweets/re-tweets, and/or whose hashtags were most repeated. **Twitter** finds out what is trending through an algorithm[10] that automatically identifies what most users are talking about at a certain period. It does this by counting how many users are tweeting about a certain topic, or how many tweets a certain hashtag has generated.

**Twitter**'s Trending list is designed to help users know what the most-discussed topics are worldwide or in a certain geographic location; the list gets updated in real-time. A sample of this is the hashtag *#thanksgiving*, which trended worldwide in November 2020. According to the website Get Day Trends, *#thanksgiving* ranked no. 1 worldwide with 2.2M tweets at a certain hour on November 27, 2020. Thanksgiving is an annual national holiday in the United States and Canada. It is also being observed in other countries around the world like Australia, Brazil, Germany, and Japan.

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[10] An algorithm is a formula that a computer uses to calculate the answer to a certain problem.
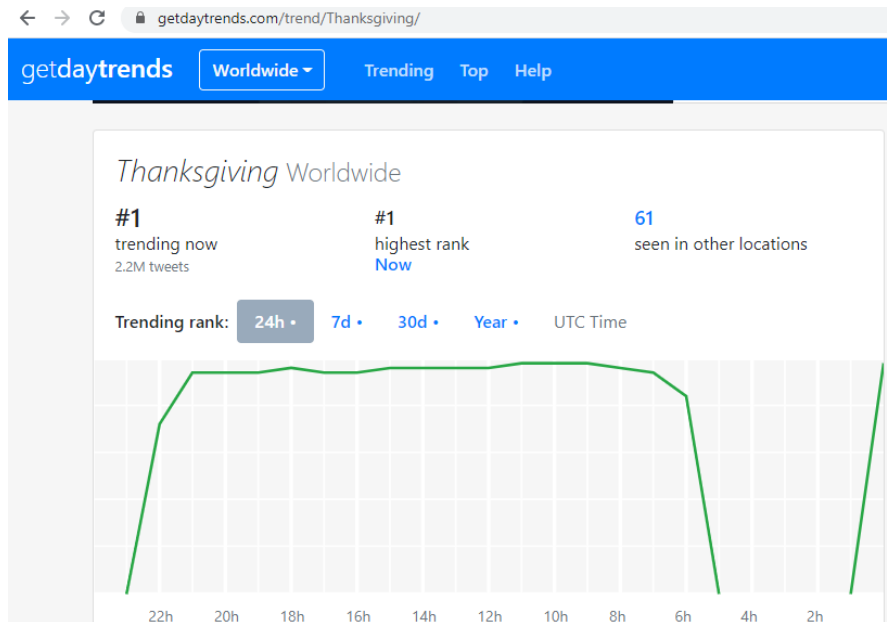
## How to Send a Direct Message

A direct message (DM) is a private message you can send directly to a 🐦 **Twitter** user. No one else apart from you and the other party can see that message. A DM does not appear on your or anyone else's 🐦 **Twitter** feed. It is like the private message (PM) on Facebook or a chat message on any instant-messaging (IM) app. Follow this step-by-step guide to send a DM.

1. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. Tap the ✉ **Message** icon to open the **Messages** window.
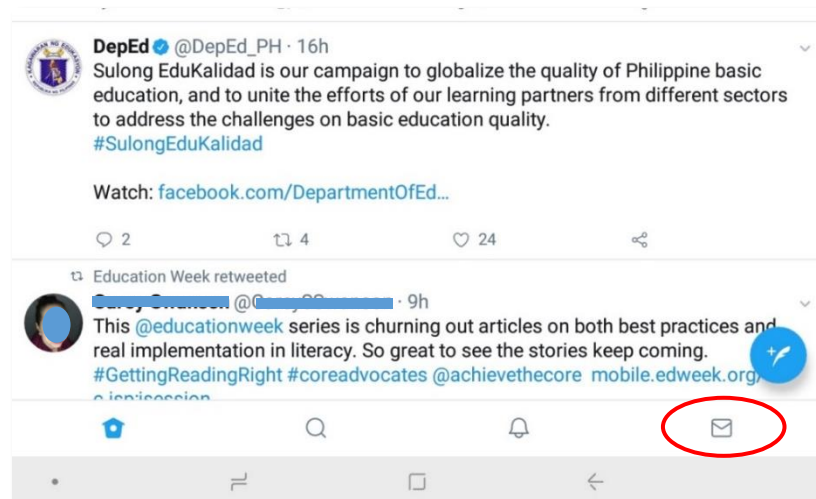
2. At the bottom of the screen, tap  to search for people you want to send a message. Note that as you type, suggestions (i.e., names and accounts) will appear.
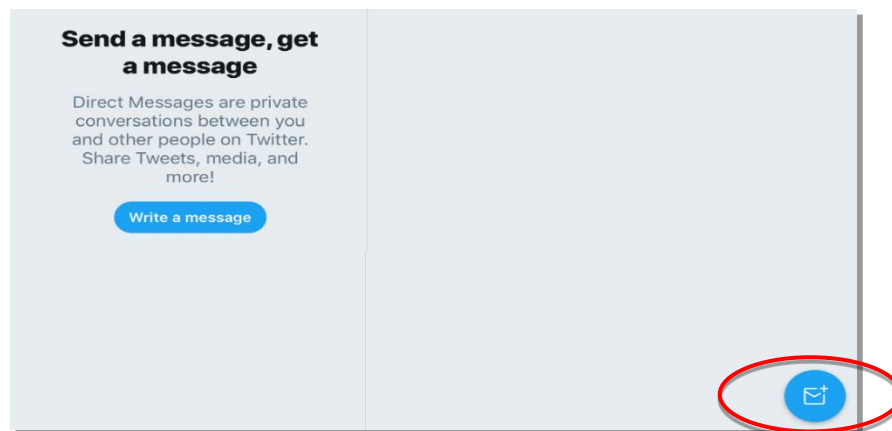


3. Select the name of the person or account you want to message then tap **Next**.
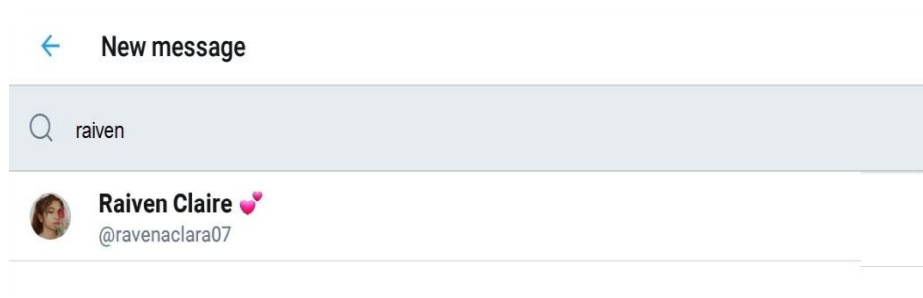


4. Type your message on the **Start a message** field. Then tap  to send your DM.
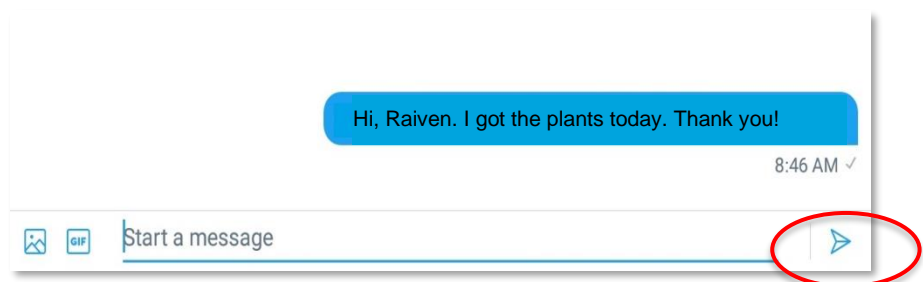


5. Congratulations! You have just sent your first direct message using an Android mobile device.

## *How to Retweet*

**Retweeting** is how 🐦 **Twitter** users share with their followers interesting tweets from other 🐦 **Twitter** accounts that they follow. It is like republishing a 🐦 **Twitter** post for the purpose of spreading the message. This is different from **re-Tweet**, which is a term used when you recycle your **own tweets** and you post these again to your 🐦 **Twitter** feed after some time.

Retweeting is an essential function of 🐦 **Twitter**. It is quite straight forward and requires the same steps across platforms. To retweet using the 🐦 **Twitter** app, follow this step-by-step guide below.

1.  Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping the icon on the home screen of your Android mobile device. You should see your 🐦 **Twitter** feed. Scroll along the tweets from the accounts you are following and tap on one that you would like to retweet. This will open the tweet in a new window.
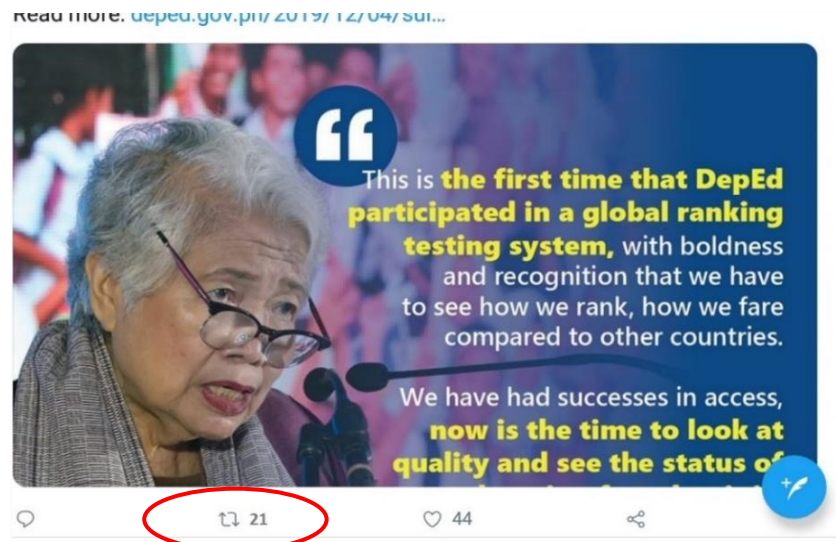


2.  Tap ♺. A pop-up message will appear asking you to confirm your desired action. You can choose to either **Retweet**, which simply re-posts the tweet from other Twitter accounts that you follow on your Twitter feed, or **Retweet with comment** if you want to say a few words before posting.
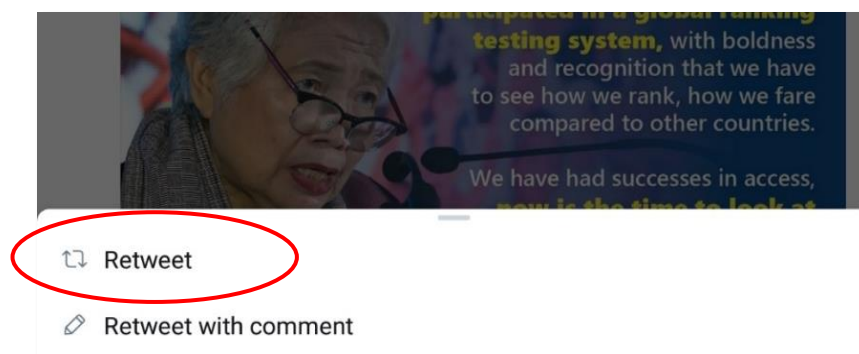
3. Tap **Retweet**. Note that the retweet ⮌ icon changed its color (green) and the number of retweets increased by one; these indicate a successful retweet.
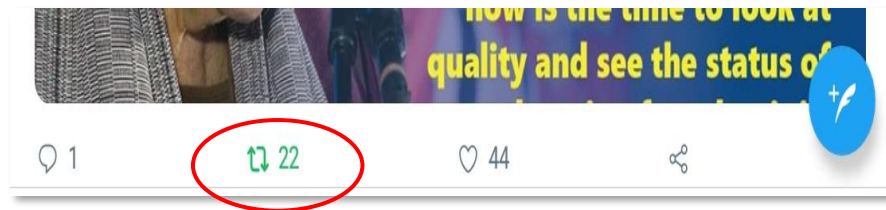


4. Congratulations! You now know how to retweet using an Android mobile device.

## *What Other Terms Should You Know?*

🐦 **Twitter** has become so popular that it now has its own dictionary of terms and you can track them in at least two sites: Twictionary and Twittonary. Words such as *twithosphere*, *twis*, *tweetaholic,* and many more cannot be found in a regular dictionary. They have been coined just for Twitter. Below are some of the words that you can find in Twittonary as published by Mashable.[11]

### A-S

*adventuritter:* an adventurous twitterer

*beetweet:* a buzzing tweet; a "hot" tweet

*co-twitterer:* a partner that tweets on your Twitter account

*dweet:* tweet sent while intoxicated

*friendapalooza:* a quick burst of friend-adding

*mistweet:* a tweet which one would later regret

*neweeter:* a new tweeter

*occasionitter:* an occasional tweeter

*politweet:* a political tweet

*qwitter:* a tool used to catch twitter quitters- UseQuitter.com

*reportwitters:* reporter style twitterers

*sweeple:* sweet twitter people

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[11] Cashmore, Pete. 16 November 2008. *Mashable.* "Twitterspeak: 66 Twitter Terms." Retrieved from https://mashable.com/2008/11/15/twitterspeak/.

## Twa-

*twadd:* to add or follow someone to your Twitter account as a friend

*twaffic:* Twitter traffic

*twaiting:* twittering while waiting

*twalking:* walking while twittering via text

*twapplications:* Twitter applications

## Twe-

*twead:* to read a tweet from a fellow twitterer

*tweepish:* feeling sheepish or regretful about something you tweeted

*tweeple:* Twitter people, Twitter members, Twitter users

*tweeps:* Twitter people that follow each other from one social media or network to another

*tweetaholic:* someone addicted to Twitter, so much so that it may be an actual problem

*tweet-dropping:* eavesdropping on someone else's home page in friend's mode

*tweeter:* a user of Twitter

*tweeter boxes:* twitterers who tweet too much

*tweetheart:* that special tweeter who makes your heart skip a beat

*tweetin:* when a group of twitterers agree to get together at a set time to twitter

*tweets:* posts on Twitter by twitterers

*tweetup:* when twitterers meet in person - a Twitter meet up

## Twi-

*twiking:* biking while twittering via text

*twinkedIn:* inviting friends made on Twitter to connect with you on LinkedIn

*twis:* to dis a fellow twitterer; very bad form

*twitosphere:* a community of twitterers

*twittastic:* fantastic, wonderful, superb

*twittcrastination:* avoiding action while twittering, procrastination enabled by Twitter use

*twittectomy:* an unfollowing of friends

*twitter-light zone:* where you are when you return to Twitter after any time away and feel disoriented and lost

*twittercal mass:* a community that has achieved a critical mass of twitterers

*twitterer:* a user of Twitter

*twittering:* to send a Twitter message

*twitterish:* erratic behavior with short outbursts

*twitterfly:* being a social butterfly on Twitter evidenced by extreme usage of @ signs

*twitterject:* interject your tweet into an existing tweet stream of conversation

*twitterlinker:* a service collecting the best links posted through Twitter

*twittermob:* an unruly and ragtag horde of people who descend on an ill-prepared location after a provocative Twitter message

*twitterpated:* to be overwhelmed with Twitter messages

*twitterphoria:* the elation you feel when the person you have added as a friend adds you back

*twitterage:* rage at a Twitter post

## Why Is Information Privacy a Big Twitter Issue?

Privacy is a very important concern when using social media such as 🐦 **Twitter**. You need to exercise sound judgment on what personal information you want people to see. Think twice before you decide to tweet in 280 characters on what is happening in your life. You need to ask yourself the following: Is the tweet something you want all your followers to know? Will the tweet negatively impact your reputation as an educator or your future endeavors?

Industry professionals warn that many social media sites collect private data to profile users as well as to sell/ share information to a third party. As such, you may need to limit the amount of personal information you provide online, which can be exposed to the public. Careful consideration and balance were taken in designing the tutorial part of this e-book so that, in the process of learning how to effectively use 🐦 **Twitter**, you are not required to provide too much information; only those that are **essential.**

Posting tweets is simple. You just type your message and post it so that your followers can see. Anyone who follows you on 🐦 **Twitter** can see all your tweets. A tweet that is preceded by "@username" such as "@mt4tproject" means it is intended for that particular user. Even then, it can still be read by all your followers. So be very careful

about what you say in a tweet. If you wish to tweet sensitive information about another **Twitter** user/account, consider sending a direct message instead. That way, only your intended recipient or the concerned **Twitter** party can view your tweet.

Note that like any other social media, **Twitter** collects data on all your actions and the information you share while using its platform. You can have some control of the data that Twitter collects and how it may use those data. Read all about it on Twitter's latest Privacy Policy here, which took effect on June 18, 2020.

Below is the fine print of Twitter's privacy policy. You are encouraged to read the information and carefully examine how your **Twitter** activity impacts on your privacy.

- *Twitter is public and searchable by anyone.*

- *When you use Twitter, we receive some personal information and use this information.*

- *We give you control through your settings to limit the data we collect from you.*

- *Most activity on Twitter is public, including your profile information, your time zone and language. We also use technology like application programming interfaces (APIs) to make your information available to websites, apps, and others for their use.*

- *We use your contact information to enable certain account features like for login verification or Twitter via SMS.*

- *You can choose to upload and sync your address book and we use this information to recommend content to you and others.*

- *When you communicate with others by Direct Messages, we store and process your communication and information related to them. Remember that recipients have their own copy of your communications on Twitter – even if you delete your copy of those messages.*

- *We do not use them to serve you ads.*

- *You may provide us with payment information (e.g. credit or debit card number, etc.) to purchase advertising or other offerings as part of our services.*

- *We receive certain information when you use our services or other websites or mobile applications that include our content, and from third parties including advertisers.*

- *We require information about your current location, which we get from signals such as your IP address or device settings.*

- *We also store additional information about your location such as your current precise position or places that you previously used Twitter.*

- *We keep track of how you interact with links including links in emails we send you and links in tweets that appear on other websites or mobile applications.*

- *We receive information when you interact with our services, "Log Data," even if you have not created an account. This includes your IP address, browser type, operating system, the referring web page, pages visited, location, your mobile carrier, device information, search items, and cookie information.*

- *When you view third-party websites that integrate Twitter content, we receive Log Data that includes the web page you visited.*

- *Our ad partners and affiliates share browser cookies IDs, mobile device IDs, hashed email addresses, demographic or interest data, and content viewed, or actions taken on a website or app. Some enable us to collect information directly from a website or app.*

- *We receive information about you from third parties who are not our ad partners such as other services you link to your Twitter account.*

- *We share or disclose your personal data with your consent or at your direction, such as when you authorize a third-party web client or application to access your account.*

- *Subject to your settings, we also provide certain third parties with personal data to help us offer or operate our services. The information does not include your name, email address, phone number, or Twitter username, but these partnerships allow the information we share to be linked to other personal information if the partner gets your consent first.*

- *We may share your private personal data with service providers on the condition that the third parties use your private personal data only on our behalf and pursuant to our instructions.*

- *Notwithstanding anything to the contrary in this Privacy Policy, we may preserve, use, or disclose your personal data or other safety data if we believe that it is reasonably necessary comply with a legal process, or governmental requests; to protect the safety of any person; to protect the safety and integrity of our platform; and to help prevent spam, abuse, and malicious actors on our services.*

- *In case we are involved in a bankruptcy, merger, acquisition, reorganization, or sale of assets, your personal data may be sold or transferred as part of that transaction. We may also disclose personal data about you to our corporate affiliates.*

- *We share non-personal data or disclose aggregated information like the total number of times people engaged with a tweet, and demographics.*

- *We provide you tools and account settings to access, correct, delete, or modify the personal data you provided to us.*

- *We keep Log Data for a maximum of 18 months. Search engines and other third parties may keep copies of your public information, even after you have deleted the information from our services or deactivated your account.*

- *Where the laws of your country allow, you authorize us to transfer, store and use your data in the United States, Ireland, and any other country where we operate.*

- *By continuing to access or use the Services after those changes become effective, you agree to be bound by the revised Privacy Policy.*

## How to Change Your Twitter Account's Privacy

Changing 🐦 **Twitter** account privacy settings requires the same steps across mobile operating systems. Doing this is very important to secure data and personal information you have shared on 🐦 **Twitter**. To change your 🐦 **Twitter** account's privacy settings, follow this step-by-step guide.

1. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app installed on your Android mobile device. The page should open to your feed. Tap your profile picture to access your profile settings.



2. Tap the **Settings and privacy** button to open the settings page. Then tap **Privacy and safety**.
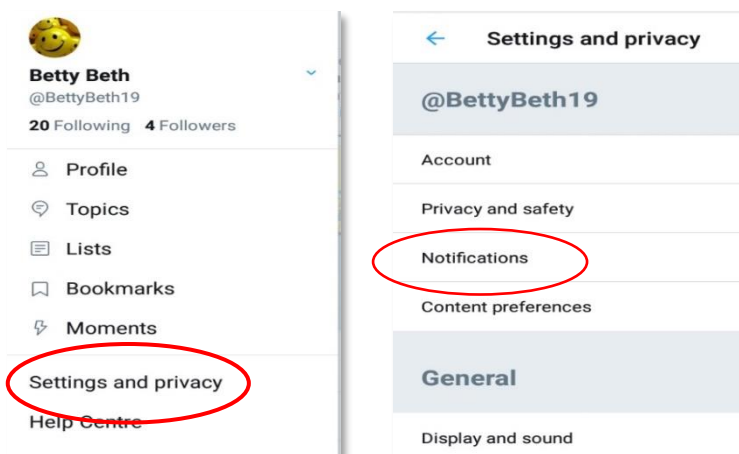
3. You should now see the privacy settings for your Twitter account. This includes privacy settings for your *Tweets, Direct Messages, Discoverability and Contacts, Safety, Personalization and Data, and Twitter for Teams*. Review each setting; you can check or uncheck, enable, or disable items depending on your preferred privacy settings.

- **Tweets.** Your tweets are set to public viewing by default. This means that even those who are not following you will be able to see your tweets. You have the option to change this by ticking the **Protect your Tweets** box. Note that once this is activated, you will need to approve all follower requests.

  In this section, you can also choose to share your current location, and allow anyone or only those you follow to tag you in photos.
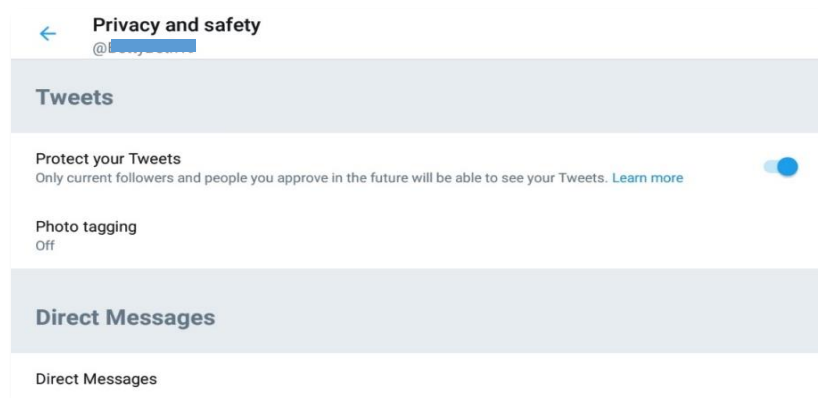


- **Direct Messages.** Referred to as DMs, these are messages you send and receive directly to/from someone on 🐦 **Twitter**. You can choose to allow anyone on Twitter to send you DMs even when they are not following you. You can also activate the **Show read receipts** option to let you know when your DMs have been read and vice versa to DMs that were sent to you.

- **Discoverability and Contacts.** 🐦 **Twitter** lets you determine how people can find you, either through your email address or through your phone number. It also allows you to manage the contacts stored in your Android mobile device and to turn off the automatic syncing with your 🐦 **Twitter** contacts.

- **Safety.** 🐦 **Twitter** allows you to gain control of (1) what you will see on your feed, (2) the notifications you will receive in your timeline without necessarily blocking people, (3) the search results that will be shown to you (without sensitive contents), and even (4) let people know if your tweet may contain information or materials that may be sensitive or offending for some.

- **Personalization and Data.** In this section, you can further customize your Twitter account by limiting the data that Twitter can collect and share with third party clients. You can also use the controls here—for instance, to tell Twitter how it can use the data that it collects from you— to personalize your Twitter experience.

4. Congratulations! You have just learned how to manage your Twitter account's privacy settings in your Android mobile device.

The following articles should provide you with more tips and suggestions on how you can protect your privacy on 🐦 **Twitter**:

## Web Resources
**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Web Articles**

**"Twitter Privacy Policy"**
*Twitter*
https://twitter.com/en/privacy

**"Twitter's Privacy Settings, Explained"**
Rachel Kaser (2018) for *The Next Web*
https://thenextweb.com/basics/2018/11/02/twitters-privacy-settings-explained/

**"How to Protect and Unprotect Your Tweets"**
*Twitter*
https://help.twitter.com/en/safety-and-security/how-to-make-twitter-private-and-public

**"If You Have a Twitter Account, Change These Privacy Settings Now"**
Matt Elliott (2017) for *CNET*
https://www.cnet.com/how-to/change-your-twitter-privacy-settings-now/

## What Is Proper Twitter Etiquette?

Etiquette refers to rules of behavior and standard decorum that are followed in social, professional, and other settings. Societies and cultures within a society have their own notion or standards of what is good or proper behavior. Learning these can be very challenging for people who are new to a certain culture. Even members of a society or culture sometimes breach etiquette and commit social gaffes/mistakes. In Twitter, like in other social networking platforms, etiquette is also observed.

Mastering 🐦 **Twitter** is like learning a new language. It is not just a matter of learning key terms. It is also about understanding the culture where these terms came from and/or are commonly used. When tweeting, certain guidelines should be followed. Let us call them "rules of the trade" by which we all must abide. When people do not follow proper 🐦 **Twitter** etiquette or Twetiquette, it may lead to embarrassment. It can get awkward and people may feel disheartened.

The following are some 🐦 **Twitter** must-dos, according to "The 10 Essentials of Twitter Etiquette":[12]

- ***Always add value.*** *Everything you Tweet should add value to your followers' day. Try to tweet encouraging words. Make your followers smile when they read your Tweets.*

- ***#Do not #Overuse #Hashtags #In #Your #Tweets.*** *#It #Looks #Ridiculous. #Stick #To #Three #Or #Fewer. That is proper #TwitterEtiquette.*

- ***A follow-back is nice but not required.*** *It is not a bad idea to follow influential users and people who frequently retweet or comment on your post. But do not feel obliged to follow everyone who follows you.*

- ***Do not just tweet headlines and links.*** *It is easier to just send out a headline of a relevant article with a link, but if you want to add value, pull out some interesting quotes from it instead.*

- ***People you follow say something about you.*** *This may be a personal thing but make sure that the people you follow are relevant and add value. If you are invited to a dinner party with a plus one, you would want to make sure the person you bring is an engaging guest.*

- ***Avoid negativity.*** *Criticizing individuals opens doors that you do not want to walk through in social media. This is often the root cause of many embarrassing moments. Stay positive and you will gain more friends.*

Similar to the real world, as a teacher, you also need to ensure that you look your best on social media. Here are additional tips from "The Complete Guide to Twitter Etiquette"[13] published by [Mashable.com](Mashable.com) to ensure that you are representing yourself well on 🐦 **Twitter**.

- **Content.** Even if your 🐦 **Twitter** account is private, the contents that you share can still circulate in the World Wide Web and be exposed to the public. Behave online as though your followers are your parents, children, students, colleagues, and superiors at work. This means that your tweets should not contain profanities. No matter how strongly you feel about something, your tweets should always be well thought out and respectful of other users.

  Rein in or exercise strict control over your netspeak[14] as too much of this can make your Tweets appear less formal and unbecoming of an educator like yourself. Steer clear of tweeting even the minute details of your everyday life like "Heading to the supermarket to buy some fruits" or "Just had a dream, scary!"

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[12]  Kevin Allen. 16 June 2013. *Entrepreneur.* "The 10 Essentials of Twitter Etiquette." Retrieved from https://www.entrepreneur.com/article/227038.

[13]  Hiscott, Rebecca. (2013 October 14). *Mashable.* "The Complete Guide to Twitter Etiquette." Retrieved from https://mashable.com/2013/10/14/twitter-etiquette/.

[14]  Netspeak refers to the manner of speaking on the Internet that often involves the use of abbreviated words (e.g., LOL – laughing out loud), jargon, and emoticons.

Taking advantage of 🐦 **Twitter** as a platform to promote yourself and your professional expertise is understandable and is encouraged among educators. However, do not forget to also engage with other users by commenting on their posts and sharing their content.

You would want your followers to know more about who you are and what interests you as a person and educator. Sharing your opinion is one way to do that. When you express your thoughts and share these with your followers to comment on, remember to use respectful language. When you are commenting on a trending or controversial topic, consider these questions before tapping on the [ Tweet ] button:

*"Do I have a constructive, well-informed opinion that would add value to this conversation?"*

*"Are there others who are more qualified to comment on this?"*

*"Will my opinion make a difference* (or create positive impact)*?"*

*"(Is this an issue that I feel strongly about and) have been actively working to promote or protest… in real life?"*

*"Am I willing to accept the consequences of potentially upsetting followers* (that include my friends, colleagues, and superiors)*?"*

Adding hashtags can aid in making your tweets more popular, gain more interest, and easily tracked. However, a tweet that is composed entirely of hashtags can be an eyesore and make you look like a spammer.

- **Following and Followers.** Carefully consider the 🐦 **Twitter** accounts you want to follow because these make a powerful statement about your interests and sphere of influence. It is only polite to follow back some of those who chose to follow you, but you are under no obligation to follow each one of your followers. You would not want to fill your feed with tweets from people or accounts that do not interest you, in the same way, you should not feel slighted if those you follow decide not to follow you back.

- **Interacting.** As the number of your 🐦 **Twitter** followers increases, it is possible that you will be interacting with people you may never meet in real life. In your interactions with your followers, remember to always be respectful. Whenever possible, try to respond to each comment on your tweets. You are not obligated to respond to each tweet, but at least one collective acknowledgment of those comments through a tweet is a polite thing to do.

The same goes for people whom you follow. Do not expect an acknowledgment of every single comment that you have on their posts. Realize that they might have missed your comment, or they just cannot afford to respond to each comment, particularly when these are too many.

If someone sends you a DM, do not respond publicly, or share your conversations with your other followers. Keep the exchange of messages private.

For more information on Twitter etiquette, you may read on the following articles:

## Web Resources

**For more information on Twitter etiquette, read these resources**

**Web articles**

**"20 Essential Tips for Better Twitter Etiquette"**
by Jeff Goins for *Goins Writer*
https://goinswriter.com/twitter-etiquette/

**"Twitter Etiquette for Beginners"**
*Dummies.com*
https://www.dummies.com/social-media/twitter/twitter-etiquette-for-beginners/

**"11 Rules of Twitter Etiquette You Need to Know"**
by Corey Donohue for *Jeff Bullas.com*
https://www.jeffbullas.com/11-rules-of-twitter-etiquette-you-need-to-know/

**"How are Your Twitter Manners"**
*Top Dog Social Media*
https://topdogsocialmedia.com/twitter-etiquette/

Advanced users refer to those who have been actively using Twitter for personal and professional development for some time. If you have reached this level of competence, you are ready to explore the other features of Twitter using your Android mobile device. This section will teach you how to share photos and videos, do more complicated tasks, and how to deactivate your Twitter account.

### *How to Share an Image*

A huge part of social networking has to do with sharing various media such as videos and photos. Almost all social networking apps, including  **Twitter**, allow users to upload photos. The step-by-step guide below details how you can share an image on Twitter using these two options.

#### How to Share an Image Using the Twitter Application

1. Open the  **Twitter** app by tapping it. Then tap  found at the bottom right of the screen to open the tweet page.
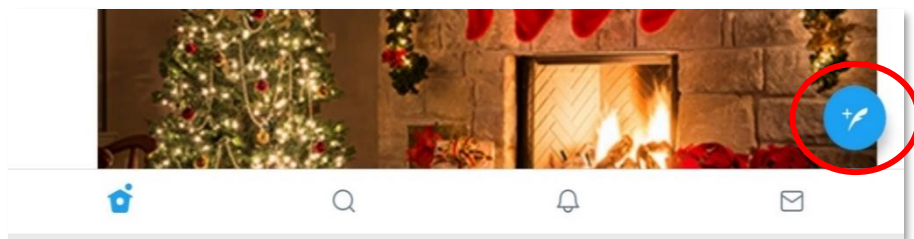


2. There are two options on how to share an image in your Android mobile device. **Take a photo** and **Share existing photo**.

   • To take a photo, tap the  camera icon. Your photo should appear on the text field.
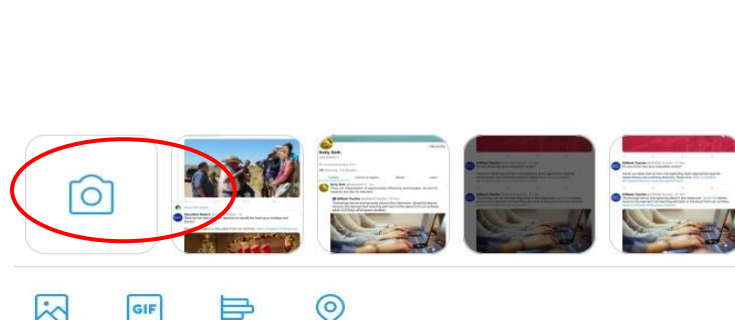
- Say a few words in the field **"What's happening?"** to describe the image you chose to upload. You can change the background color by tapping 🔵 found at the bottom left of the screen.
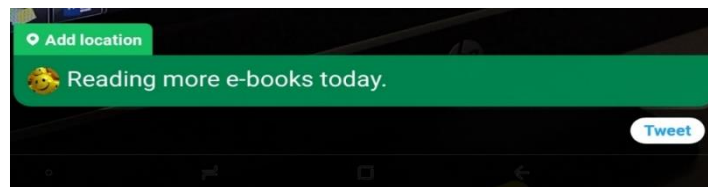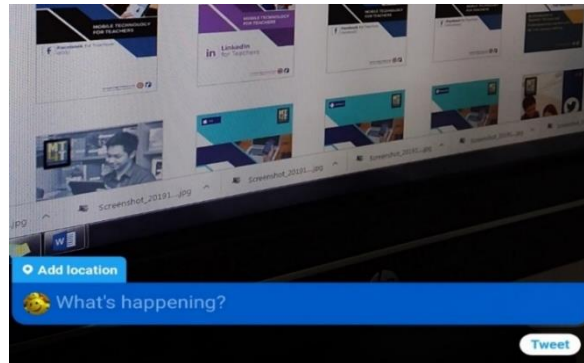


- To share an image using the option **Share an existing photo,** tap this image ✉ icon. This will display all existing photos saved on your Android mobile device. Tap the image that you want to share, then tap **Done**.
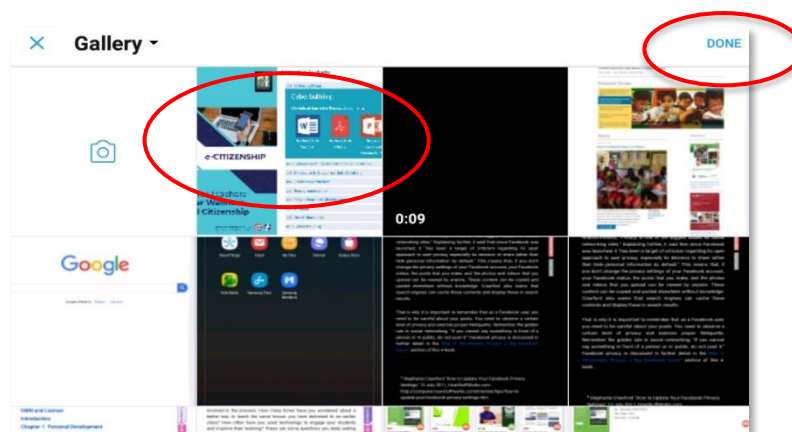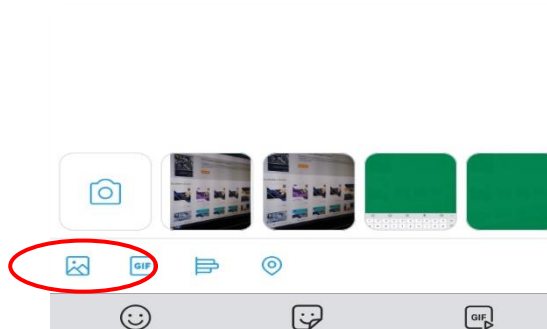
3. Your selected image should appear on the text field, below your tweet. Tap the **Tweet** button to upload.



4. Congratulations! You now know how to share an image using a ▼**Twitter** app on an Android mobile device. You and your followers should see this image below on your respective Twitter feeds.



## How to Share a Video

Unlike in the past, you can now upload videos on ▼**Twitter**. The ▼**Twitter** Android app recently added new features including the ability to upload videos from any mobile device through **mobile.twitter.com**. The Daily Egg website shared a guide for beginners on how to post videos on ▼**Twitter**. According to the article, "The Beginner's Guide to Twitter Video," there are four options available for ▼**Twitter** users to upload videos and these include (1) posting from a smartphone, (2) posting from a desktop, (3) posting from a different platform (i.e., YouTube, Vimeo or Wistia), and (4) posting a sponsored video. Learn more about each option, including the step-by-step guide when you tap here.

Just as a text tweet is limited to 280 characters, a video post on ▼**Twitter** likewise has a time limit of 30 seconds. There is, however, a way that you can upload longer videos, and the best part is, it does not cost any money to do it.

This tip was shared by Eadlyn Schreave in her article, "How to post videos longer than 30 seconds on 🐦**Twitter**."[15] Basically, it is done by accessing ads.twitter.com. The catch is that you will need to provide your credit card details, but no fees will be charged unless you do something else apart from uploading a video. This is just a required step in accessing 🐦 **Twitter**'s ad features. If you want to know more about how you can upload longer videos on 🐦 **Twitter**, read the full article here.

Videos posted on Twitter automatically play when you scroll through them on your feed. To share a video on Twitter, follow the step-by-step guide below.

1. Sharing a video on 🐦 **Twitter** is just like sharing a photo. To do that, open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. Tap 🖊 found at the bottom right of the screen to open the tweet page.



2. There are two options for sharing a video using your Android mobile device: **Take a video** and **Share existing video**.

- To **take a video**, tap 📷 and hold the camera button as long as you want to record a live video. Once done, release the camera button. Your video will directly appear on the text field.




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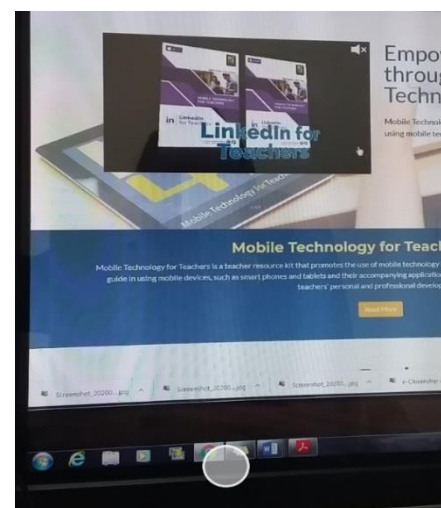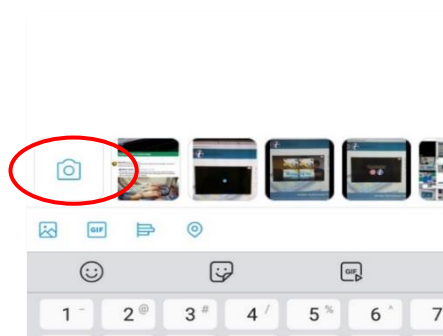
15    Schreave, Eadlyn. 15 January 2018. *Medium.* "How to Post Videos Longer Than 30 Seconds in Twitter." Retrieved from https://medium.com/@es199x/how-to-post-videos-longer-than-30-seconds-in-twitter-59bb99043b69.

- Say a few words on the field **What's happening?** to describe the video before uploading. You can also change the background color by tapping  found at the bottom left of the screen.
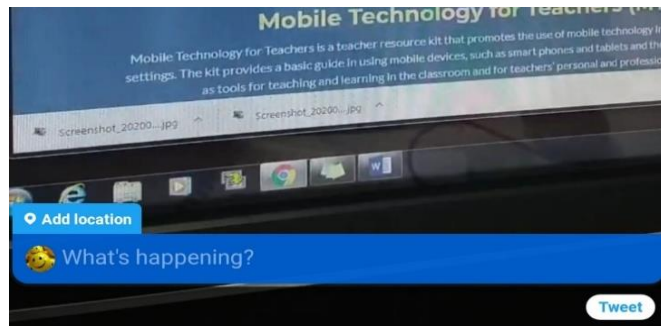






- To share a video using the option **Share an existing video**, tap  the image icon. This will display all existing videos saved on your Android mobile device. Tap the video that you want to share. You may be asked to edit and trim the selected video. After this, tap **Done**.
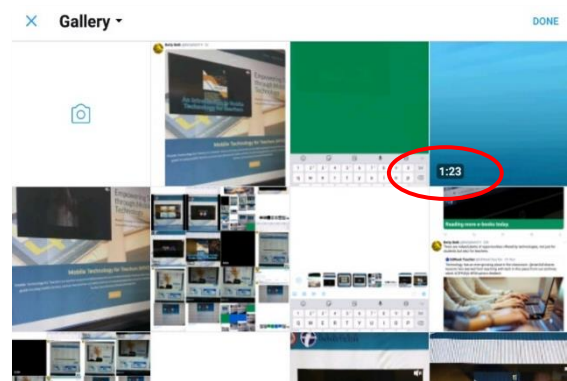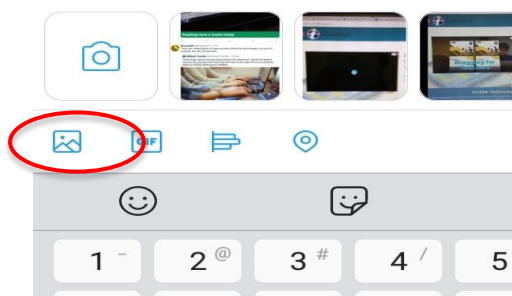
3. Your selected video should appear in the text field, below your tweet. Tap the **Tweet** button to upload.
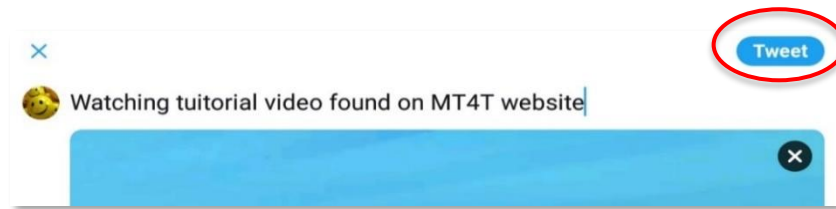


4. Congratulations! You now know how to share a video using a 🐦 **Twitter** app on an Android mobile device. You and your followers should see this image below on your respective Twitter feeds.
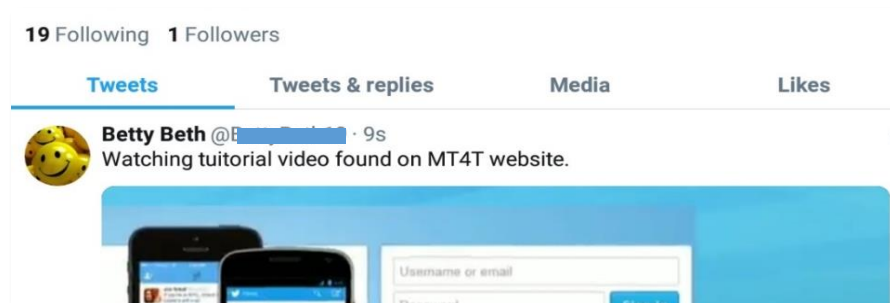


For additional tips on how to share videos on 🐦 **Twitter**, read the following articles:

## Web Resources

**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Web articles**

"Twitter Tips (2020): How to Share Someone's Twitter Video Without Retweeting"
by Andrew Lee for *Medium*
https://medium.com/@AndrewLeeReal/one-important-twitter-tip-you-should-know-in-2018-d9d4e62371e6

**"How to Post Videos on Twitter – The Complete Guide"**
by Moshe Samuel fo*r Magisto Blog*
https://www.magisto.com/blog/2019/03/18/how-to-post-videos-on-twitter-the-complete-guide/

**Ways to Share or Upload Your Video Onto Twitter**
by Carolyn Emge for *Soular Arch Media*
https://www.soularchmedia.com/ways-to-share-or-upload-your-video-onto-twitter/

"**How to Share and Watch Videos on Twitter"**
*Twitter's Help Center*
https://help.twitter.com/en/using-twitter/twitter-videos

## *How to Deactivate Your Twitter Account*

If you want to regain the privacy that you felt was lost after you joined and poured your heart out on 🐦**Twitter**, perhaps you have tweets that resulted in a catastrophe, or have other valid reasons for leaving 🐦 **Twitter**, rest assured that deletion of your 🐦 **Twitter** account is an option that is available to you. You may first deactivate your account to temporarily delete it. Once you do this, all your followers will not be able to search or message you.

But, if within 30 days[16], you have a change of heart and want to retain your account, after all, you can reactivate your account and retrieve all your 🐦 **Twitter** data. It is a different story, though, if you are past the 30-day grace period. You cannot reactivate your 🐦 **Twitter** account after this period. Note, however, that even after you have deactivated your account, some of your tweets can still appear elsewhere online since published data/information is indexed by search engines like Google and Bing. It may take a while before your 🐦 **Twitter** footprints are completely erased online.

If you decide to leave 🐦 **Twitter**, you need to deactivate first your account, after which Twitter will queue it for permanent deletion. To deactivate your 🐦 **Twitter** account, follow this step-by-step guide.

1. Open the 🐦 **Twitter** app by tapping it. Then tap your **Profile picture** found at the top left of the screen to open your profile page.



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16   Grigonis, Hillary. (May 6, 2018). *Digital Trends.* "How to delete your Twitter account." Retrieve from
     https://www.digitaltrends.com/social-media/how-to-delete-your-twitter-account.

2. Tap **Settings and privacy,** then look for and tap the **Account** settings.
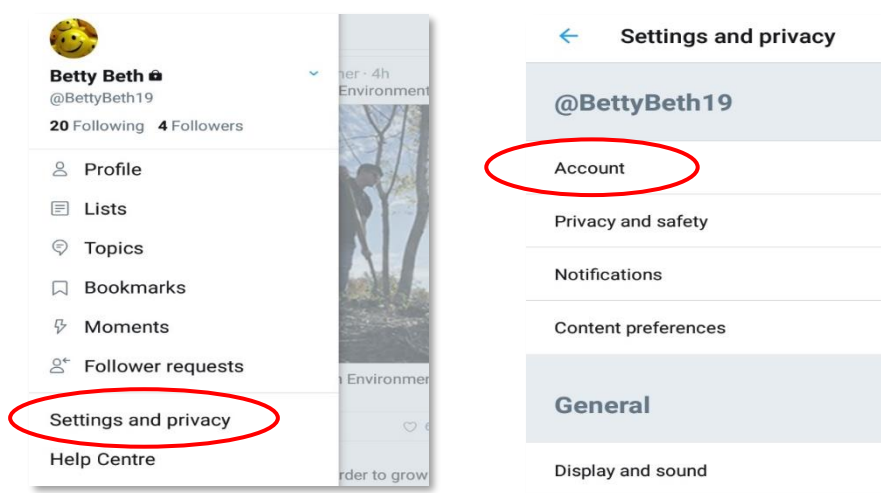


3. Scroll down to see the **Deactivate your account** option and tap that.
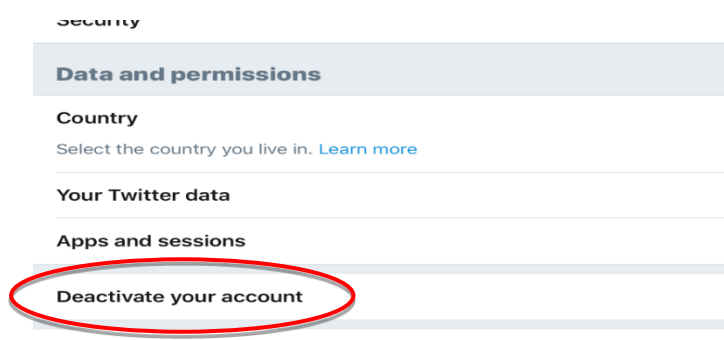


4. This will open to a page where you can see all you need to know before deactivating your 🐦 **Twitter** account. Tap **Deactivate** once you have read all the information about deactivating your account.
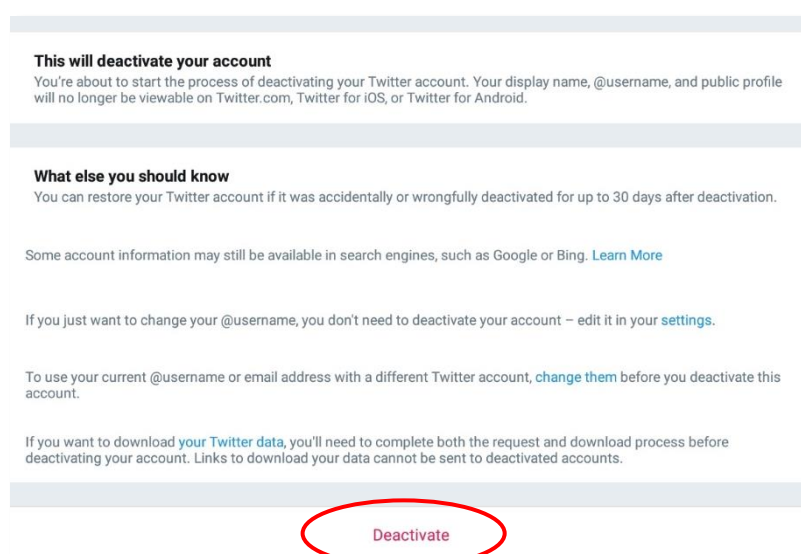
5. You will be asked to provide your password. Tap **Yes, Deactivate**. A confirmation box will appear to confirm the deactivation of your account.
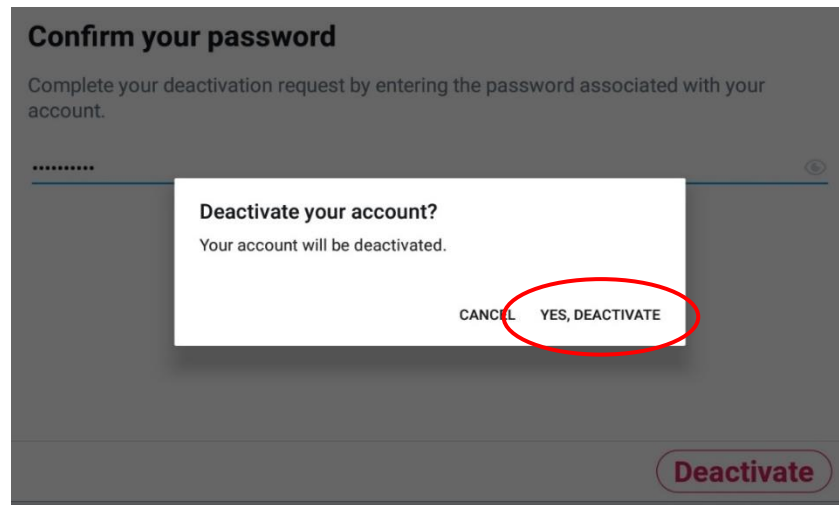


6. Congratulations! You now know how to deactivate your  **Twitter** account using an Android mobile device.

Expert users refer to those who use 🐦 **Twitter** for teaching and learning and their own personal and professional development. They use 🐦 **Twitter** as a source of instructional materials and their mobile devices as instructional tools. Users in this level should know how to use Twitter for research projects, collaborate with others in their field of expertise, and use the platform in a classroom setting. They should also know how to use Twitter to promote higher-order thinking skills and values among students.

## *How to Use Twitter for Research Projects*

🐦 **Twitter** provides many opportunities for crowdsourcing to gather research data in the fields of natural, social, and human sciences. Crowdsourcing is the process of soliciting ideas, information, services, funds, and others from a group of people, using an online platform. It was coined from the words: "crowd" and "outsourcing." The idea is to outsource the work to a crowd of people, usually free of charge.

Using 🐦 **Twitter** for crowdsourcing presents novel prospects for research. You can get people to help with gathering data, observations, analysis, and even transcribing and editing documents. You can interact with much larger audiences in a much more effective way. All you need to do is follow 🐦 **Twitter** users and treat them as information sources while building up your own following.

Keep in mind, though, that you need to be upfront and transparent about your intention for collecting data on 🐦**Twitter** and how that data will be used. You should also give your 🐦 **Twitter** respondents the option for anonymity if they wish to keep their names or 🐦 **Twitter** accounts confidential in your research report. This is part of research etiquette and is in line with statutory laws on data privacy and protection (e.g., the Philippines Data Privacy Act).

🐦 **Twitter** can cater to a wide range of interests, both academic and personal. Thousands of academics and researchers with varying levels of experience and across disciplines use 🐦 **Twitter** daily. They connect and collaborate with their followers.

The following tips on using 🐦 **Twitter** for research, which was featured in "Academic Tweeting: Using Twitter for Research Projects," may prove useful for you:[17]

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[17] The London School of Economics and Political Science. (2017). *LSE Impact Blog.* "Academic Tweeting: Using Twitter for Research Projects." Retrieved from http://blogs.lse.ac.uk/impactofsocialsciences/2011/10/05/academic-tweeting-research-projects.

- *Tweet about each new publication.* Tweet website updates or new blog entries about completed research projects. You can send a tweet with a link to your research paper or blog entry then ask your followers for comments or any other kind of feedback. For tweets to work well, make sure that a full version or at least a summary of every publication, or conference presentation, or talk at an event is available online. Summarize each paper published on a blog or post an extended summary of your university's online research repository.

- *Use hashtags to make your materials more visible.* Do not be afraid to create and start using your own hashtag. Use your tweets to cover related developments on other research websites. Retweet interesting new materials that they produce. Build up a Twitter network that reciprocates research project promotion to help others stay updated, improve the standard and pace of debates, and attract more attention (and funding) for further research.

- *Crowdsource via Twitter.* Twitter provides many opportunities for crowdsourcing activities. Get others to help with data gathering, making observations, analyzing data, as well as transcribing and editing documents— all for the love of it. Some researchers use Twitter to crowdsource for research funding from interested public bodies.

- *Reach out to external audiences.* Connecting with people in the business, government, and public policy fields are easy to do on Twitter. Brevity, accessibility, and immediacy are all very appealing to non-academics. At the end of each month, you can use Twitter as a painless metric to assess how your project is doing.

Read the following articles for more on using Twitter for research:

## Web Resources

**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Web articles**

**"Using Twitter to Map and Measure Online Cultural Diffusion"**
by Professor Mark Graham (2011) for *Oxford Internet Institute*
https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/research/projects/using-twitter-to-map-and-measure-online-cultural-diffusion

**"Hashtag-jacking: A Fun Look at a Serious Issue with Twitter Research"**
by Spencer Greenhalgh (2015) for *Spartan Ideas*
https://spartanideas.msu.edu/2015/11/25/hashtag-jacking-a-fun-look-at-a-serious-issue-with-twitter-research/

## How to Use Twitter for Teaching and Learning

Through the years, 🐦 **Twitter** has steadily become popular not only as a platform for socialization and entertainment but also as an innovative teaching and learning tool. 🐦 **Twitter** appeals both to students and teachers as a "pedagogical tool to gain information, interact and engage with each other, participate in their respective communities of interests, and share insights about specific topics."[18]

The 280-character limit that 🐦 **Twitter** imposes lets students think hard about what they will say, which fosters critical thinking. 🐦 **Twitter** also encourages quick thinking and back-and-forth conversation, which are perfect for class discussions where students remain engaged even after the classes end.

Aside from being a popular microblogging site, 🐦 **Twitter** can also be used by teachers to engage their students outside the classroom and keep them in touch with the education community. Here are some creative ideas in using 🐦 **Twitter** as a teaching and learning tool.

- **Start a Twitlit project.** May it be poetry, short stories, or something else, the 280-character limit on Twitter offers excellent ways to stimulate creativity.

- **Share stories.** Ask students to play a story-go-round on Twitter: tweet the first sentence and have each student tweet another until a full story is created.

- **Conduct capsule reviews.** Challenge your students to write reviews of books, films, and other materials within the 280-character limit.

- **Start a book club.** A common hashtag and a passionate network are all it takes to share insights and recommended books.

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[18] Malik, Agdas, et al. 25 September 2019. *International Journal of Educational Technology in Higher Education.* "Use of Twitter across educational settings: A review of the literature." Retrieved from Springer Open at https://educationaltechnologyjournal.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s41239-019-0166-x..

- **Have fun with historical figures.** Ask students to role-play as significant figures in history: scientists, artists, and literary characters—it is up to you!

- **Play a geography game.** Ask eager and willing followers to give their location and put together a map of the locations—an interesting way for kids to know more about locations in their own cities and towns.

- **Host a scavenger hunt.** Get students moving and involve different grade levels and academic subjects in an online scavenger hunt.

- **Share memes.** Capture your students' attention by incorporating memes in your lessons—these funny images with witty captions can be easily generated online.

- **Supplement foreign lessons.** Tweet a sentence in a foreign language and ask students to either translate or respond as a quick lesson supplement.

- **Start an "of-the-day" activity.** Start a word of the day, a book of the day, a song of the day, or quote of the day to supplement lessons. You can also encourage the parents to talk about the featured postings at home.

- **Lesson recaps.** Ask your students to tweet a summary of what they have learned after a lesson and let them discuss it with other students.

- **Conduct polls.** Create a poll involving your students or the broader Twitter community. As a bonus, combine the poll with a geo-tracking activity.

- **Take notes.** Keeping everyone organized in a list makes it easier to supplement—not replace—reviews for tests, quizzes, and assignments.

- **Be notified of completed assignments.** Many students use Twitter to update their teachers of their activities— it works especially well for online courses.

- **Keep parents informed.** Especially with kids, parents may want to stay in the loop of everything they do. Keep a Twitter feed to constantly update them of the lessons and activities.

- **Foster communication between classes.** Connect with classes from all over the world by setting a communal hashtag for students and professionals alike to use and exchange views and lessons with one another.

- **Create Twibes.** Bring together classes or professionals via a network that will not only broaden their perspectives but also allow them to learn how online communities come together or fall apart.

- **Track topics, trends, or hashtags.** Encourage students to follow relevant topics, hashtags, or trends so they can widen their perspectives.

- **Keep up with current events.** Set up lists with relevant sources to allow students to keep up with the latest trends. Tip: Separate them by fields for easier access.

- **Follow conferences.** Spur on students to keep track of the latest updates in relevant industry conferences—more active feeds may even provide links to educational videos and podcasts.

- **Connect with professionals.** Instead of asking students to merely follow industry experts, ask them to reply to their tweets to spark discussions— it may also help in discovering possible career goals.

The article on "Using Twitter as a Learning Tool," [19] further supports the use of **Twitter** in education. The author, Lorraine Minister, shared five reasons she integrated Twitter in an online distance education course that she helped design, and these include:

- **Relevance to the content.** The online course she was teaching includes the impact of social media as one of the key topic areas. Therefore, it made sense to use social media within the instructional design of the course as a clear demonstration of "walking the talk."

- **Access and mobility.** **Twitter** is extremely mobile hence students can utilize Twitter on their smartphones while on the go. This means that students can access, work on, and complete Twitter-based learning activities wherever they are and not just within the confines of the classroom and a static computer.

- **Bite-sized efforts.** All **Twitter** activities were designed to be rapidly completed within 5 to 10 minutes. This means that these activities could be completed in small bite-sized efforts and provide an interesting alternative to posting in a forum or other activities. It also invites students to engage with content in a different manner.

- **Curation of content.** By using a unique #hashtag for each student cohort, students could potentially search tweets by other previous student cohorts and share information, resources, and references. This increases the possibility of a community of learning being built over time that goes beyond the course time frames and boundaries. Students could also curate their own content for their assignments and assessments. The lecturer could also curate tweets and use tweets over the course to share student-generated content for social learning.

Read the following articles for more information in using **Twitter** as a teaching tool and connecting with select education gurus, either through Twitter accounts or their websites:

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[19]   Minister, Lorraine. (1 September 2014). *eLearning Industry.* "Using Twitter as a Learning Tool." Retrieved from https://elearningindustry.com/using-twitter-learning-tool.

## Web Resources

**Web articles**

**"Guide to Using Twitter in Your Teaching Practice"**
*KQED*
https://www.kqed.org/education/how-to-use-twitter-in-your-teaching-practice

**"Twitter is a Teacher's Best Friend, and Here's Why"**
by Lee Watanabe-Crocket (2016) for *Global Digital Citizen Foundation*
https://globaldigitalcitizen.org/twitter-teachers-best-friend?mc_cid=963c04cac8&mc_eid=8e298c6ee6

**"50 of the Best Education Accounts on Twitter"**
by TeachThought Staff (2017) for *Teach Thought*
https://www.teachthought.com/technology/50-educator-twitter-accounts-worth-following/

**Twitter Accounts**

**Alice Keeler** (@alicekeeler):
https://alicekeeler.com/

**Shelly Sanchez** (@ShellyTerrell)
http://www.shellyterrell.com/

**Jerry Blumengarten** (@cybraryman1): A list of all things Twitter education-related from hashtags, chats, and other contacts.
http://cybraryman.com/

## How to Use Twitter for Promote Values and Higher-Order Thinking Skills Development among Students

**Twitter** is becoming a popular medium of communication and some educators are finding ways to use it to promote the development of higher-order thinking skills (HOTS) and good values of their students. Some teachers use Twitter's 280-character limit to engage their students in reflection sharing. The character limit pushes them to be creative when expressing their thoughts. This is a unique way to hone students' sense of focus. Conciseness, correct word choice, and quick editing are all positive characteristics that let **Twitter** promote HOTS.

Based on an article published in 2011 by Math Game Time, titled "8 Ways Teachers Use Twitter," **Twitter** also allows teachers to share their creativity online and thus, can encourage students to do the same. Language arts teachers encourage a community of students to come up with poems and stories that they had weaved when tweeting their suggested lines. Social studies teachers cultivate deep level thinking by asking students to tweet as famous historical figures would about current events if they were on **Twitter**.

By asking students to Tweet about a passage from a book or share their opinions about a movie they were asked to watch, teachers are honing students' skills in making inferences and doing analysis in terms that could be captured within a 280-character limit per tweet.

The following table shows how 🐦 **Twitter** can be applied to achieve learning goals under Bloom's Taxonomy:[20]

| Bloom's Taxonomy | Twitter |
| --- | --- |
| Create | **Invent** a Twitter app<br>**Create** an accurate but fake Twitter profile for a historical or a literary figure<br>**Remix** trending tweets with videos and music |
| Evaluate | **Combine** multiple tweets on a single topic to form a story<br>**Criticize** a Twitter user's argument<br>**Predict** trending words and phrases based on current Twitter trends and world news<br>**Convince** someone about a topic based purely on Tweets for evidence |
| Analyze | **Compare and contrast** Twitter with other social media<br>**Analyze** the tone of different tweets<br>**Examine** the bias of different tweets<br>**Diagram** a web showing the connections between popular and trending tweets |
| Apply | **Give an example** of a tweet of an assigned political leader<br>**Illustrate** popular or trending tweets<br>**Paraphrase** a book, a poem, or an article using only 280 characters |
| Understand | **Summarize** tweets on a relevant topic<br>**Translate** tweets into other languages<br>**Estimate** the number of tweets a user will post based on his or her tweets the previous day<br>**Rewrite** tweets in your own words |
| Remember | **Follow** relevant Twitter users (historians, scientists, etc.)<br>**Define** major elements of Twitter (tweet, hashtag, etc.)<br>**Observe** geographical trends in tweets with Trends Map<br>**Match** political tweets with political parties |

[20] *MJR Learning Consultancy.* (27 March 2013). "22 Ways to Use Twitter with Bloom's Taxonomy." Retrieved from https://muppetmasteruk.wordpress.com/2013/03/27/22-ways-to-use-twitter-with-blooms-taxonomy/.

For more insights and ideas on how to use 🐦 **Twitter** to promote HOTS and values development, the following online articles would be helpful:

- **"Establishing a Twitter Routine in Your Classroom"** by TeachThought Staff for TeachThought.com at https://www.teachthought.com/technology/establishing-a-twitter-routine-in-the-classroom/

This infographic illustrates how 🐦 **Twitter** can potentially help students develop higher-order thinking skills. It suggests classroom activities that teachers can implement even among young learners, like "paper tweeting"—writing down "tweetable moments" (anything that is worth sharing on Twitter) on index cards; evaluating prospective Twitter followers by checking together their profiles; assessing their potential value to help expand one's own professional learning network; and determining whether they will accept or decline and follow back.



Teachers can further hone their students' HOTS by asking them to create value through their tweets, like answering a question or posing a question to spark a conversation, creating a video, and sharing other resources.

🐦 **Twitter** taps both lower-order and higher-order thinking skills beginning with *remembering* (e.g., documentation of a school event), *understanding* (e.g., familiarization with Twitter lingo like **DM** for direct messaging, **RT** for re-tweet, **#** for hashtag, and **via** for the source), *evaluating* (e.g., posing questions that extend knowledge or triggers opinions), *applying* (e.g., demonstrating digital citizenship), *analyzing* (e.g., building professional learning networks with consideration of geographic location, cultural background, etc.), and *creating* (e.g., initiating backchannel discussion about a book or a movie which the class has read/watched).

Other approaches to 🐦 **Twitter** use that could be linked to HOTS include writing for a specific audience in mind, participating in a live Twitter chat, and adding value to tweets and/or re-tweets by sharing data, information, and resources.
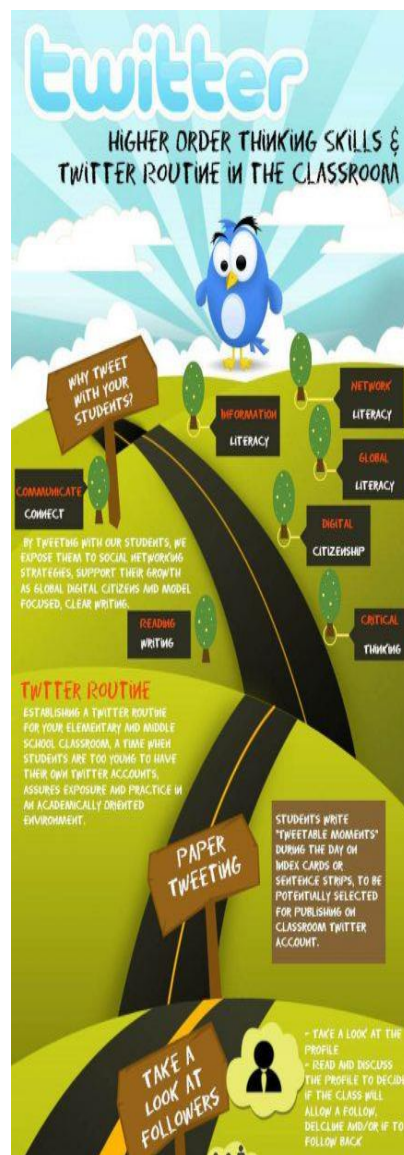
- **"Can Twitter Be Used to Teach Critical Thinking?"** by Catheryn Cheal (ND) for *Academia.edu* at http://www.academia.edu/353604/Can_Twitter_be_used_to_Teach_Critical_Thinking

Since 🐦 **Twitter** is so simple, the training needed before anyone can use it is also minimal. That is why, despite its limitations, one teacher found ways to make it useful for teaching by loosely linking it to Bloom's Taxonomy, as in the case of developing a research paper assignment. The teacher had defined the steps for developing a research paper, which is broken down into five steps and can be enhanced using Twitter:

*Step 1.* Define the topic question for a research paper

*Step 2.* Consider the prejudices, assumptions, and biases

*Step 3.* Research and gather information, eliminate biases (yours and that of other people) and assess/review the information

*Step 4.* Organize information into a logical sequence of evidence or connected patterns and make judgments, analyze, synthesize, and evaluate

*Step 5.* Make a conclusion and present it in a persuasive manner

For **Step 1**, given the character limitation per tweet, students must find ways to narrow the focus of a given research topic. Here, 🐦 **Twitter** can reinforce the skills of students in quick editing, cohesiveness, and careful selection of words to use in their tweets.

**Step 2** would benefit from online class discussions on Twitter. One class can make a unique 🐦 **Twitter** account dedicated to a single course, and because access to Twitter is possible even while students are mobile, it will be easy enough to brainstorm and comment on tweets at any time.

For gathering information **(Step 3)**, students might find 🐦 **Twitter** a bit limiting because the built-in search engine does not always yield useful 🐦 **Twitter** responses. However, 🐦 **Twitter** searches can be focused by adding hashtags. Also, 🐦 **Twitter** is useful for following tweets of a specific organization or an online influencer/expert in a given subject area.

In **Step 4**, instead of one person constructing a long logical sequence of arguments needed for the research paper, the entire class can participate in the activity through 🐦 **Twitter**. For instance, one student can start the ball rolling by tweeting a specific position, the evidence to support the position, and then creating a hashtag. Other students can chime in with their own supportive (or contrary) arguments and adding links to related resources and conclusions. Note that this assumes the students have already been taught on how to build on each other's statements.

Lastly **(Step 5)**, 🐦 **Twitter** can be used to hone a research paper's conclusion in the same way that it was used to help narrow the focus of the research question in the beginning.

While others may find 🐦 **Twitter**'s character limitation as a hindrance to sustain intellectual discourse, it is also precisely this feature that allows for quick exchange of ideas and enhances the overall efficiency and usefulness of feedback that will be received from multiple peers.

- **"Twitter as an Enabler of Critical Thinking"** by Derek Bruff (2011) for *Vanderbilt.edu* at [https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/2011/10/twitter-as-an-enabler-of-critical-thinking/](https://cft.vanderbilt.edu/2011/10/twitter-as-an-enabler-of-critical-thinking/)

One college lecturer and a teacher aide narrate how they were able to successfully encourage critical thinking and student engagement through Twitter use in an undergraduate class on leadership.

The lecturer effectively utilized a Twitter app (HootCourse) to stimulate higher-order thinking by requiring students to tweet questions related to the lesson or topic for discussion before each class starts. The tweets served as the students' "gate pass" or entry ticket to the class. From among the list of questions, students would then vote which questions they want to tackle in class.

The teacher aide knew that such a requirement can seem daunting to students. However, the medium selected for the poll, 🐦 **Twitter**, has helped make the task more appealing and accessible to students. Toward the end of the semester, both the lecturer and the teacher aide learned that students of the class had spread the word of how enjoyable and "cool" the class was because it did not just permit them to use their mobile phones in class, it also helped them appreciate social media's use for educational purposes.

The increased student engagement led to a more quality class discussion and demonstration of critical thinking. It worked well for a big class where everyone had the chance to add-in their thoughts or opinions, which is not possible in a regular class where the more confident students dominate the discussions.

## *How to Use Twitter for Professional Development*

🐦 **Twitter** is potentially a valuable tool for professional development. It has become an effective communication platform for educators around the world. It provides a space where teachers get to meet peers, discuss current educational issues, and share and learn from other experts.

A research in 2018 on the use of 🐦 **Twitter** as a tool for professional development and community of practice,[21] published by the Journal of Interactive Media in Education, cited that, due to limited funding for continuous professional development, some teachers have turned to 🐦 **Twitter** as a "replacement for formal learning opportunities through conversations, sharing ideas and resources." The research, which involves a group of language teachers, found that through a common hashtag, #MFLtwitterati,[22] teachers were able to form a professional learning network and a community of practice, with a "strong ethos of sharing innovative classroom practices, encouraging each other to experiment, and feedback their findings for further discussion and reflection."

In an informal survey among users of the #MFLtwitterati hashtag, from which the research was based on, teachers affirmed the positive impact of tweeting on their classroom practice. The respondents felt they (1) are "part of a large group of like-minded people where they can share classroom experiences and be supported when experimenting with new ideas; (2) can reflect on their own practice through informal discussion with others and feel they have become better teachers as a result; (3) find it easier to keep up to date with the latest resources; (4) are delivering more engaging and effective lessons by trying out new strategies, which in turn are motivating their pupils, improving attainment and encouraging them to produce more creative outcomes; and (5) have greatly improved their students' knowledge and their own skills and confidence in different technologies, integrating them into their lessons and enhancing learning."

The school administrator and blogger [Brian Paul Hill](#) strongly advocates for anyone working in the education field to have a 🐦 **Twitter** account. According to him, "we have to be consumers of information—constant consumers of information; information that is current and important. If we are not doing this, then we become stagnant in our work and complacent in our profession."[23]

The following are some tips on how to get started with 🐦 **Twitter** as a professional resource[24] based on an article published in 2017 by the Education World, titled "Using Twitter for Professional Development."

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[21] Rosell-Aguilar, F. (2018). *Journal of Interactive Media in Education.* "Twitter: A Professional Development and Community of Practice Tool for Teachers. Retrieved from https://files.eric.ed.gov/fulltext/EJ1180366.pdf .

[22] The hashtag #MFLtwitterati originated from Joe Dale who created a group called MFL (Modern Foreign Languages) Twitterati for Twitter users who, like him, use technologies for language learning.

[23] Caron, Sharon. (Updated 2017 February 3). *Education World.* "Using Twitter for Professional Development." Retrieved from https://www.educationworld.com/a_tech/using-twitter-for-professional-development.shtml.

[24] Ibid.

1. ***Set up a free Twitter account.*** This takes just a few minutes. Be sure to fill your profile with information about being an educator. You do not have to share the exact details of your profession but keeping it a little broader will be more beneficial since it will open your professional circle to other folks with common interests as you.

2. ***Write a few practice Tweets.*** In the beginning, it can be quite a challenge to communicate meaningfully with just 280 characters. Try to send a few tweets to get the hang of the app's limitations. Once you become accustomed to **Twitter**, you can also try using third-party clients and apps that can help you enhance your tweets.

3. ***Follow, follow, follow.*** You need to find on **Twitter** like-minded people whom you can follow (remember what you learned in [Chapter 2](#)). Use **Twitter**'s search function to find people in your field. You can also use educator-related hashtags to search for topics, and eventually discover Twitter accounts that may be most interesting to you. You can try the following education-related hashtags that are recommended by Shelly S. Terrel, author of the "Teacher Reboot Camp" blog: #edchat, #sschat, #kinderchat, #cpchat, #ntchat, #elemchat, #edscape, #tlchat, #subject, and #edcampKC.

   Once you get subscribed to a few accounts, you can also check out who they follow and you can begin following them, as well.

4. ***Join the conversation.*** The great thing about **Twitter** is that it is one big chat session, and all that you need to do is jump in to join the conversation. Do this by posting tweets about what you have in mind, and by responding to tweets of others that show on your feed. This give-and-take helps build rapport with your followers and those you follow. You can also join regular chat sessions on Twitter that are education-related, such as those shared by Shelly S. Terrel.

5. ***Tweet like your mama and principal are watching.*** Like any other social media platform, you need to remember about proper etiquettes when you are on **Twitter**. Bear in mind that whatever you tweet can be seen by your personal and professional connections; therefore, you should think before you tap **Tweet**.

   If you feel like tweeting something related to your work, ask yourself if this is something you will not hesitate to say face-to-face to your colleagues or supervisors. If it is, then go ahead and tweet about it; if not, better not post it for the public to see. You may also decide to change the settings of your account to private. Note, however, that this will not prevent your followers from re-tweeting your tweets to their own followers.

A professional learning network (PLN) for teachers can be established on 🐦 **Twitter** by following other teachers, checking who else follows them or whose tweets they retweet, and selecting similar people to follow. A 🐦 **Twitter** PLN is linked to the concept of social presence as online representations of the self, which can be a key factor in facilitating collaborative learning and developing online communities (Lomicka and Lord 2012)… therefore, members of a 🐦 **Twitter** PLN may become a Community of Practice, with "groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems, or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis" (Wenger et al. 2002, p. 4).[25] To learn more about PLNs, check the MT4T e-book on *"An Introduction to Teachers' Personal and Professional Learning Networks for 21st Century Learning."*

The website Learn How to Become, recommends keeping in mind certain strategies to strengthen one's professional image and to widen their reach on Twitter.[26] The following are some of those strategies.

- **Deciding on a "voice" or "persona" before the first tweet.** A "voice" is a way of describing one's mission for being on Twitter; "persona" is how you want to protect yourself on 🐦 **Twitter**. Before you make your first Tweet, you need to make careful consideration of how you want to appear to the Twitter world through your tweets. Make sure the persona or the voice you choose matches the mission, which you claim to promote/advocate for.

- **Making sure the profile page properly reflects the voice/persona.** 🐦 **Twitter** users will look at your profile page and based on this, they will decide if they want to follow you. To make sure your followers stay, your profile should match the tweets that they will be receiving from you and the kind of interaction you will be providing them.

- **Always stay on point.** Once you have decided on the voice/persona that your 🐦 **Twitter** profile will be carrying, you must try to always abide by it. Otherwise, your followers may start to get confused and doubt the sincerity of your declared mission for being on Twitter. So, while it may be tempting to ride on the latest controversial issues, remember that it is best to stay professional by sticking to matters that you are advocating.

Here are more tips[27] on how you can effectively use Twitter as an educator:

- Tweet frequently to maintain or establish an audience of followers. Your Twitter activity can include retweeting other people's tweets, which may be relevant to your own followers.

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[25] Ibid. p.75

[26] "Using Twitter for Professional Development; Crafting the Perfect Account & Maximizing Professional Opportunities." (ND) *Learn How to Become.* Retrieved from https://www.learnhowtobecome.org/career-resource-center/using-twitter-professional-development/.

[27] Julie Tappendorf. 4 July 2013. *Social media Today. "8 Tips for Using Twitter More Effectively."* Retrieved from http://www.socialmediatoday.com/content/8-tips-using-twitter-more-effectively.

- Seek out and follow other Twitter accounts in your education specialization. This can generate increased awareness of your Twitter account, particularly among teachers who have established Twitter follower bases with shared interests.

- Seek out and follow Twitter accounts owned by educators in the same field as you are. They can become your best supporters by retweeting your tweets for their followers to see. Their followers can then become yours, too.

- Consider customizing your Twitter background or theme to reflect your educational commitment.

- Put a link to your Twitter account on your website or blog to increase cross-traffic between them. You can also include links to your Twitter and other social media accounts in your e-mail signature.

- Do not forget to put a short description of yourself on your account. You can also include a link to your school website.

The following articles offer additional information that can help you use Twitter effectively for your professional, as well as your personal endeavors as an educator:

# Web Resources

**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Web Articles**

**"How to Use Twitter Effectively"**
*Bella Design and Marketing*
   https://belladesign.co.uk/how-to-use-twitter-effectively/

**"12 Most Effective Ways to Engage on Twitter"**
*Ekaterina Walter*
   https://www.americanexpress.com/us/small-business/openforum/articles/12-most-effective-ways-to-engage-on-twitter/

**"99 Serious Twitter Tips for Academics**"
 *Best Online Colleges*
   https://www.bestcollegesonline.com/blog/100-serious-twitter-tips-for-academics/

 **"7 Tips On How To Use Twitter Effectively For Your Career"**
*M.A. Smith*
   https://www.topresume.com/career-advice/7-tips-on-effectively-using-twitter-for-your-career

You may also want to try these third-party apps to further enhance your social networking experience on  Twitter.

## Web Resources
**Tap the links to access the resources**

**Mobile Apps**

**Dlvrit**
https://dlvrit.com/

**Tweet Deck**
https://tweetdeck.twitter.com/

**TwitPane**
https://apkpure.com/twitpane/com.twitpane

**Twitterfall**
https://twitterfall.com/

**Twitdom**
http://twitdom.com/

**Tweet2gif**
https://apkpure.com/tweet2gif/org.trecet.nowhere.tweet2gif

## *How Else Can Teachers Use Twitter*

Education is on the verge of an ongoing technological revolution. The answer to almost every question is available on the Internet, accessed at the touch of a finger or even by voice. Teachers and students can interact with anyone else around the globe. Web browsing and interactive social networking sites such as  Twitter are effective methods for gleaning information and learning about the world and have increasingly become an important part of everyday life.

Many teachers already use  Twitter to create and participate in a learning community. Teachers who have used  Twitter say it is a useful backchannel during and after class. Some use it to notify students of changes to course content, schedules, venues, or other important information. Others encourage their students to regularly converse with peers to know more about their culture, hobbies, friends, family, and more, making  Twitter an ideal venue for learning about other cultures.

The following are more ways you can use  Twitter for your personal and professional growth:

- **Get instant feedback.** Teachers always try to combat student apathy. University of Texas history professor, Monica Rankin, found an interesting way to do so—using  Twitter in the classroom. Rankin uses a weekly hashtag to organize comments, questions, and feedback posted by students during class.[28]

- **Answer questions.** Some educators streamline discussions by allowing students to answer questions via  Twitter rather than raising their hands. This greatly aids in studying, as they can easily refer to previous discussions via dedicated classroom hashtags.[29]

[28] Marshall Kirkpatrick. 1 June 2019. *ReadWrite.* "How One Teacher Uses Twitter in the Classroom." Retrieved from https://readwrite.com/2009/06/01/how_one_teacher_uses_twitter_in_the_classroom/

[29] Greg Ferenstein. I March 2010. *Mashable.* "How Twitter in the Classroom is Boosting Student Engagement." Retrieved from https://mashable.com/2010/03/01/twitter-classroom/.

- **Enable discussions outside class.** University of Texas emerging media professor, David Parry, also thinks ▼ **Twitter** is an excellent way for his students to continue discussions even after classes end. And they frequently do.

- **Make announcements.** Rather than sending e-mails *en masse*, many education professionals find it far easier to Tweet changes, cancellations, and other important announcements. This helps them avoid the dreaded spam filters that often prevent students from receiving time-sensitive messages.[30]

- **Map trends.** Combine social media and geo-tracking with Twittermap, which allows users to plug in and track what people are talking about and where. For sociology and marketing students, such technology can help them better understand demographic needs and wants.

- **Help students get their names out.** College professors hoping to nurture the professional future of junior and senior students can teach them to use social media to look for jobs. Business students who are into the whole "personal branding" fad will particularly benefit from comprehensively exploring such a thing.[31]

# Web Resources

**Tap the links to access resources on using Twitter for teaching**

**Website Articles**

**"Advice for Teachers New to Twitter"**
by Liz B. Davis (2009) for *The Power of Educational Innovation*
http://edtechpower.blogspot.com/2009/02/advice-for-teachers-new-to-twitter.html

**"8 Useful Tips to Become Successful with Twitter"**
by Paul Boag (2009) for *Smashing Magazine*
https://www.smashingmagazine.com/2009/02/8-useful-tips-to-become-successul-with-twitter/

**"Using Twitter as a Learning Tool"**
by Lorraine Minister (2014) for *eLearning Industry*
https://elearningindustry.com/using-twitter-learning-tool

**"Twitter for Teachers"**
by Kathy Schrock (ND) for Kathy *Schrock's Guide to Everything*
http://www.schrockguide.net/twitter-for-teachers.html

**"Twenty-Five Interesting Ways to Use Twitter in the Classroom"**
by Michael Sauers (2009) for *SlideShare*
https://www.slideshare.net/travelinlibrarian/twenty-five-interesting-ways-to-use-tw

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[30] David Silver. (22 February 2009). *Silver in SF.* "This Replaces Those—Twitter in the Classroom." Retrieved from http://silverinsf.blogspot.com/2009/02/this-replaces-those-twitter-in.html.
[31] Ryan Lytle. (24 May 2011). *U.S. News.* "5 Unique Uses of Twitter in the Classroom." Retrieved from http://www.usnews.com/education/best-colleges/articles/2011/05/24/5-unique-uses-of-twitter-in-the-classroom.

The role of  Twitter in education continues to grow. It is proving to be a powerful social media tool for teaching, learning, and professional development.

It improves communication between you and your students, encourages active participation in class activities, facilitates the learning process, and opens opportunities for online collaboration with your peers and colleagues, among others.

 Twitter provides a window for students to learn new materials and better understand certain topics. Students feel more engaged in their learning, hence, becoming more interested in the lessons and more motivated to learn and engage in class discussions.

 Twitter chat groups (formed through a common hashtag) have allowed educators to discuss pertinent issues in education, giving everyone a chance to add their own voice to conversations that matter, and providing opportunities to form professional learning networks and collegial friendships online.

If you take the time to see what other teachers/educators say on  Twitter, you will be amazed by how much you can learn from their tweets and the ideas and resources that they share.

Clearly,  Twitter has helped redefine the requirements of "professional development," which before, could entail paying for training fees, making travel arrangements, and devoting time away from your teaching load to attend a course or a seminar. A growing number of educators are now turning towards Twitter as a quick, easy, and low-cost alternative to devouring information that can potentially help them with their professional growth needs.

To some extent,  Twitter is the "future of education and this is the time for you to become a part of this future."[32] It all starts by setting up and maintaining a  Twitter account.

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[32] "The Role of Twitter in Education." *Analyzeedu.com.* (April 2018). Retrieved from https://www.analyzedu.com/blog/education-tips/the-role-of-twitter-in-education.html.

This e-book *"Twitter for Teachers"* has been updated to include the latest features of Twitter in the Android platform for mobile devices like smartphones and tablets. The e-book will guide you in using Twitter as a platform to establish and expand your professional learning network, and as a tool to showcase your professional expertise, experience, and accomplishments. You can also use this to connect to your other social media accounts, like a WordPress blog site which you may have.

Note that the contents of this e-book have been customized for end-users of Android mobile devices. Note further that while the screenshots embedded in this e-book were generated using a tablet, the functionalities of the Twitter app do not have significant differences across Android devices; hence, the instructions contained herein are applicable for both tablets and smartphones.

SEAMEO INNOTECH invites you to take part in our initiative to equip teachers like yourself with skills and knowledge on technology relevant to education in the 21st century. You may contribute by sending in new resources on *Twitter for Teachers* that you find useful through the MT4T project email at si_mt4t@seameo-innotech.org. Your support will help ensure that this free e-book on *"Twitter for Teachers (Android Mobile Devices)"* will continue to grow and expand.

Mobile Technology for Teachers (MT4T) is a project of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization Regional Center for Educational Innovation and Technology. Learn more about the project, access its FREE resources, and stay up-to-date through the following:

https://www.seameo-innotech.org/mt4t
SEAMEO INNOTECH Reader Mobile app
https://www.facebook.com/mt4tproject