Top 5 tips

How Twitter can enhance the classroom

1. Connect with content area experts.

Every content area has someone performing the skills we teach in class. Engineers are using math, biochemists are finding cures for illnesses using their knowledge of chemistry in living organisms, authors are drafting their latest creations, and all of them can make real-world connections to students. Seek out those experts on Twitter and ask if they would Skype with your class for 15 minutes.

2. Use the hashtag #Comments4kids to connect with students from other classrooms worldwide.

Do your students blog, create artwork or produce student films? Use the hashtag #Comments4kids along with the link to your students’ work to alert other Twitter classrooms to visit your web page and provide supportive feedback to your students.

3. Learn and have fun with other classrooms around the world with Mystery Skype.

Ready to have fun with other classrooms around the world? Play Mystery Skype, which is a game of 20 questions and only requires a few minutes to set up and play. Students in your class play with another class in a mystery location, and they use their geography knowledge and critical thinking skills to narrow down where the other class is located. It often starts with broad questions such as, “Are you north of the equator? Does your location border an ocean? Does your country have four seasons?” and the questions become more specific until students have identified the correct location. Use the hashtag #mysteryskype to find teachers and students in different parts of the world who are ready to play and share a cultural exchange with you.

4. Poll the world audience.

Are your students curious to know about weather, sports, cultural events, or what other students eat for lunch around the globe? Twitter is a fantastic place to crowdsource knowledge. Simply pose the question and ask others to retweet it or have students create a Google form and then share the link with the world.
5. **Celebrate and share your class creations and activities.**

Let your classroom have a virtual open door as you share news and classroom experiences with others. If you host a Mystery Skype, share the photos. Are students working on experiments? Snap a photo and share the learning happening that day. Not only will the education community be excited to hear about the good things happening in your room, your photos will inspire thousands of teachers around the world to be as innovative as you.