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## 15 Ways To Use Twitter In Education (For Students And Teachers Alike)

Twitter is a micro blogging portal that proves extremely useful across academic applications. Teachers, students, and parents can benefit greatly of the advantages offered by using Twitter in education. The short tweets can be used to inform students about any changes and to collaboratively work as a great team.



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## How To Use Twitter In Education

Many regard Twitter as quite a useless social media sharing portal. Some have this negative opinion, mainly because of the fact Twitter allows you to “tweet” or post only 140 characters in length. This length equals the text of a regular SMS, and for some this is simply not enough. However, [Twitter](#) proves to be an extremely helpful little educational tool. By using Twitter in education, you can post only a few short sentences, but that is exactly enough to transmit the essence of your message.

Leading such busy lives, people do not have the time or the mood to read long walls of text. They prefer to capture only the essence, and using Twitter in education helps you with that. This social media portal is widely used among the academia all across the world. Students, journalists, actors, politicians, important leaders, and sports people... they all use Twitter. So how can such a tool really prove helpful in the educational field?

### 1. Tweet homework and assignments.

everyone with an account will receive a notification, and they can share, forward or respond to the tweet.

## 2. Get important educational resources.

Many times teachers are simply out of ideas regarding interactive and creative methods of teaching. Now, by searching for “[Twitter for Teachers](#)” resources, you can get instant access to hundreds of important links. Get insightful ideas from other teachers around the world, follow the good examples or share your own efficient teaching methods. Twitter is a good tool for professional development.



motivate students to use Twitter in order to work on collaborative assignments. This way, you can also intervene at any point by giving a good advice, sharing an interesting link with your students, or helping them with important resources for research.

#### **4. Announcing field trips.**

Students love surprises. Therefore, write a creative 140 characters long description of the great field trip you will all take together... if the classroom results are good for everyone. Within minutes, you will see dozens of messages congratulating you for the idea. Plus, by advertising the field trip through Twitter, everyone will get a real time notification.

#### **5. Subscribe to relevant hashtags.**

Discuss with students in the classroom what issues they would like to follow on Twitter. Have a talk on the relevant issues for your class, and then decide together what hashtags you should all follow. By getting regular news updates through following, there will always be an interesting topic to debate in class. Using Twitter in education provides a great way of socialization and encourages students to speak up for the issues they believe in, and become opinionated.

#### **6. Tweet about changes in the program.**

If there is any change your students should know about, you can use Twitter to inform them. For example, if the class will be held in another classroom or if the class will be skipped the next day. Students receive instant notifications, and they can share with fellow students. If there is any last minute change regarding the school program, just send out a short tweet.

#### **7. Organizing contests.**

Have students prepare for your next class by writing a nice essay, or by solving a tough math problem. Give them incentives, and motivate them to enter the contest. Students love to interact through social media, and you will get a great number of participants in your school related contest.



## 8. Syncing Twitter with relevant blogs.

It is very useful for teachers, parents and students. Twitter allows you to sync with WordPress blogs, and all update notifications will be received through Twitter. This way, everyone can tune in and check out the fresh updates of different logs, without actually entering separately each address. Teachers can check the posts of their students by clicking on the link, while students can follow the posts and updates of their peers.

Any student can quickly and easily find high-quality research material using Twitter in education. All they need to do is type in the search bar relevant keywords, and they will receive a list with dozens of relevant websites and blogs. There is also the option to search for specific phrases, key figures, discussion topics, relevant discussion forums, etc.

## **10. Network through hashtag chats.**

Search for any topic that you are highly interested in, and join other great groups available on Twitter. Make new friends, express your opinion on an academic matter, and ask your fellow students or teachers to join. You will form one huge and powerful army of experts and debaters on topics that are of high interest to you.

## **11. Share interesting topics.**

Help your fellow students get a better understanding of a tough topic for class. If you found an interesting article, a website or even someone worth following on Twitter, share it with other students. The same goes for teachers, who should definitely share educational materials and links with students using Twitter as the main platform.

## **12. Create a unique classroom hashtag.**

With so many hashtags available out there, it is quite difficult to find a unique one. However, find such a relevant word and use it for your classroom hashtag. Then ask all students and teachers to join, and this will be your little virtual online classroom. Hashtags are used to find groups of interest and then connect with them, so make sure you give away your hashtag only to those you want to join the respective group.

## **13. Write mini reviews.**

Both teachers and students can use Twitter to write very short and concise reviews of a movie or a book. This way, you will make a recommendation to watch or not to watch a certain movie. Connect with your teachers and fellow students even for entertainment through Twitter. The reviews should be short, but they may contain links to the full article or review you posted on a website for example.

## **14. Surveying students.**



prefer to read, or what recreational activities they would prefer more. It is amazing how many essential things you will learn about your students by having them complete such a survey (Twitter link to Survey Monkey for example).

## 15. Teach through play.

You could invite students to write collaboratively a nice poem. You suggest the first two lines on Twitter, and then everyone else will try to come up with a new rhyming and relevant line. This is particularly useful for creative writing or English class, and students will love your ingeniousness. Instead of a poem, you could ask them to write a letter, with each student adding a few lines until they create a nice story. Then, you will read the entire work of art in class and analyze it together.

## Conclusion

These are only a few ideas on how to successfully use Twitter in education. This micro-blogging portal is not only for entertainment, but it can have a very important role in academia as well. Students, teachers and parents will all benefit of being active on [Twitter](#). The portal also helps forming very united and compact groups, and it helps increase the productivity and responsiveness of students. Now the entire classroom can join Twitter, and everyone can start using all the amazing features offered by the portal: Advertise, inform, share, respond, create a buzz, invite... and anything else you can imagine!

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## 5 Creative Uses Of eLearning Infographics

Does the thought of developing eLearning infographics send you into a panic? Never fear. In this article, I'll share 5 creative ways to incorporate infographics into your eLearning course.





## eLearning Infographics: How To Use Them Creatively In eLearning

Creativity is only limited by your belief. If you believe you are not creative, you are less likely to fully engage that part of your brain. You need to let your inner “child” free in a way. Children are not afraid to try, fail, and try again. They haven’t developed the “adult” filter yet. You know; the filter that says, “I can’t do that because I will look foolish or disappoint my intended audience”. Here are 5 ideas to creatively use [eLearning infographics](#) in eLearning. But don’t stop here, add to this list.

## Get The Ultimate Guide To eLearning Infographics

This guide can help you <sup>JOBS ▾</sup> get ideas on everything you need, when working with eLearning Infographics.

### 1. Match Infographic Type To eLearning Content

First things first, it's essential to determine your infographic approach beforehand. [eLearning infographics](#) come in different types and a "one-size-fits-all" mentality doesn't apply. What is the message your eLearning content is trying to say? Is there a definite organizational theme? Chances are, it will best fit in one of the six infographic types. These are: how-to, research, compare and contrast, did you know, demographics, advocacy, and timeline. Once you have the infographic type narrowed down, include context that shows online learners the main idea. Allow them also to find their own conclusion. Don't put it in writing for them. So how do you guide them to the conclusion you envision? Build your [eLearning infographics](#) around the conclusion.

### 2. Create An Inspired Layout

Don't limit yourself with the obvious solutions of font and size. What is an unusual use for an icon or clip art? Is there an unexpected factor you can play on? The unusual or different adds the "wow" effect every artist hopes to achieve. For example, you decide to make your infographic path flow at an angle. Then instead of using a typical arrow to indicate the path, try using a path of emoticons. Better yet have a stepping stone pathway and instead of stones use the emoticons. Is there another "better yet" to this scenario? You decide. This allows you to add [visual appeal](#) to virtually any topic, even boring or bland compliance online training.

### 3. Step-By-Step Online Training Tutorials

Some work-related tasks are more involved than others. Thus, employees may forget the steps involved as soon as they click away from the [online training tutorial](#). Fortunately, you can offer them a quick memory refresher in the form of an [eLearning infographic](#). Highlight each step of the process with brief text captions and images that allow them to mimic favorable performance behaviors. For example, a snapshot of an employee safely handling hazardous materials to reduce workplace injuries. Online learners will be able to use these reference guides on the job, making them

When dealing with statistics, percentages really stand out and add impact. Since they have impact in their own right, why not capitalize on this fact by drawing attention to them. Make the numbers be the focus of the section. Making the numbers large and bold are the obvious methods. However, try to incorporate [mini-graphics](#) within or drawn onto the number to illustrate the main topic of the section. For example, you're dealing with the company dress code. Incorporate bold stats and charts that highlight the number of violations every year.

## 5. Downplay Controversial Topics To Reduce The Shock Factor

Some topics carry a lot of weight, due to political correctness, taboo or controversy, or social sensitivity. Handling these types of topics may make you cringe because you don't want to offend anyone. Sometimes, downplaying the topic won't elicit the type of response needed to get the message out. [eLearning infographics](#) can show what you don't want to "say". For instance, your scenario is the workplace sexual harassment, which may put some employees ill at ease. eLearning infographics that feature notable stats and non-offensive imagery can drive the point home, without isolating members of your workforce.

## 2 Extra Tips To Make Creative And Engaging eLearning Infographics

### a. Title Control

Authors do this all the time, especially now in the digital age. They find the most creative word use and [font](#) for their cover to tempt the browser to read the synopsis. If you take this route, make sure the headline word choice depicts the overall message for that section. Let the title stand out but be different. Consider having the title in the middle, as a crossword puzzle, vertically down one side, etc. The possibilities are endless. When you use this type, the graphics are at their most basic. The surrounding colors are muted and understated. Everything except the title is quiet, but not boring. You do want corporate learners to read all other text, after all.

### b. Opt For A Monochromatic Color Scheme

Visual is anything that draws the eye into an area of focus. It can be the graphic or the text. Center your effort to highlight the main topic or take-away point. Then design an eye-catching way to draw attention there. If your concept is best depicted through

stimulation because your main point could get lost in the visual noise.

When it comes to creativity, the sky is literally the limit. Don't be afraid to take chances. If you think your idea is too over the top, talk it over with your eLearning team or gather employee feedback. They may point out something that helps you develop more effective [eLearning infographics](#) for your target audience.

Do you want to create amazing eLearning infographics for your eLearning course? Download our Free eBook: [The Ultimate Guide To eLearning Infographics](#) to discover how to work with eLearning Infographic templates, the benefits of including eLearning Infographics into your eLearning course design, the steps you should follow to create them, as well as examples of creative uses and must-have features that exceptional eLearning Infographics usually include.

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