

mrkeenan@gmail.com

www.MrKeenan.ca



403.585.6446



@mrdkeenan



Twitter in Plain English

Twitter In Plain English

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<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ddO9idmax0o>



Twitter as a Professional Tool

- Twitter has emerged as an exceptional business tool for professional marketing and learning.
- It allows for real-time communication with experts in many educational fields.



Connecting to the Experts

- <http://wefollow.com/twitter/education>
- This site will list some of the most influential 'Tweeps' in education.
- There are many other lists and methods of searching for people to follow

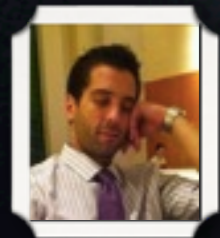


Connecting to the Experts

- Some key educators I follow:



- @missnoor28 - Exceptional educator from Jordan, well read and very supportive



- @gcouros - Local boy from PSD, great resource for 21c and edtech



- @teachingwithsoul - Speaker, #ntchat founder, blogger, writer and overall positive force in education.



Building your Network and Experience

- You can very quickly build out your network by simply 'following' other users, many will follow back.
- How do you find these people to follow?



Hashtags

- Hashtags are sorting mechanisms used on Twitter to direct conversations around a topic.
- Many hashtags are used regularly, but anyone can start a new one.
- Most current conferences have hashtags, #GETCA has one!





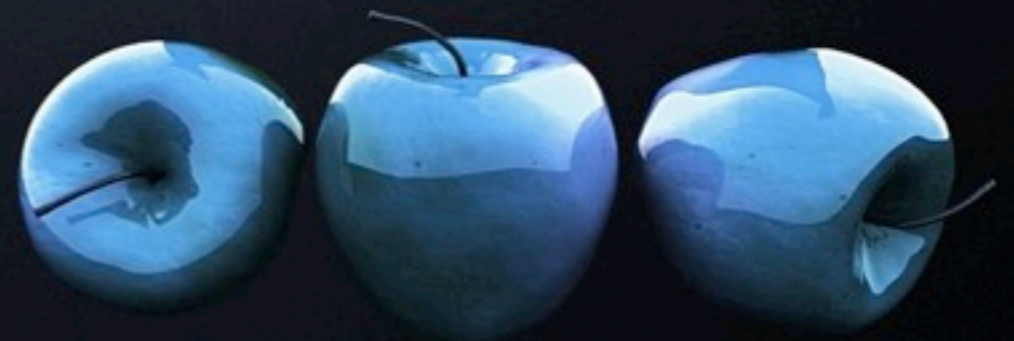
Twitter Applications

- Twitter has produced official apps for most major platforms.
- These apps make searching, sorting and following easier to manage.
- It is through these apps that we may have the most success in using Twitter with students.



Introducing Students to Twitter

- Ensure students have the option to create school-focused accounts that may be separate from personal accounts.
- Create a hashtag for your class.
- Let's try #TwitProfDev



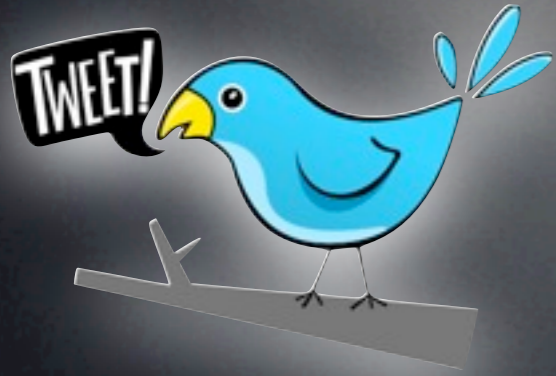


Backchannels

- Using your newly-minted hashtag, have students post to the tag as learning is taking place.
- This is called a backchannel, and allows for posting *as* questions and new ideas develop.
- Monitoring is essential.



Making it Relevant, an Activity



- Have students use Twitter on their time.
- Have them tweet observations of the world using your hashtag
- Bring it back into the classroom for discussion
- Asynchronous learning



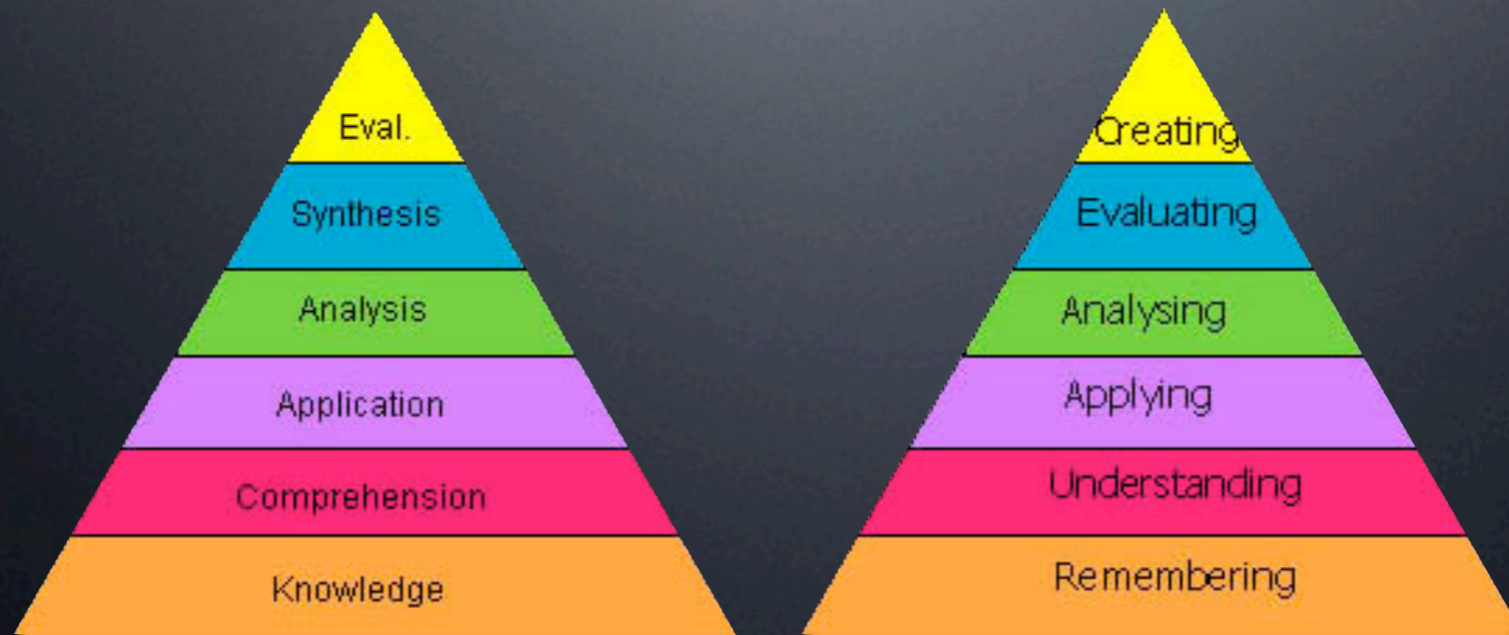
Set up a Speaker

- If you can arrange to have one of your Twitter experts connect with your class, synchronously or not, your students can benefit.



Bloom's Digital Taxonomy

- What can we do with Twitter to reach HOTS?



http://4.bp.blogspot.com/_jzDdth4n2to/TSdPvGrlpQI/AAAAAAAAADI4/WE0Wqb8J_iU/s640/2011-01-07_1237.png



National Education Technology Standards for Students



- Creating effective digital learning means creating activities that involve these!

- What skills are students developing with Twitter?

<http://www.iste.org/standards/nets-for-students.aspx>



Meeting Outcomes & Planning for Success

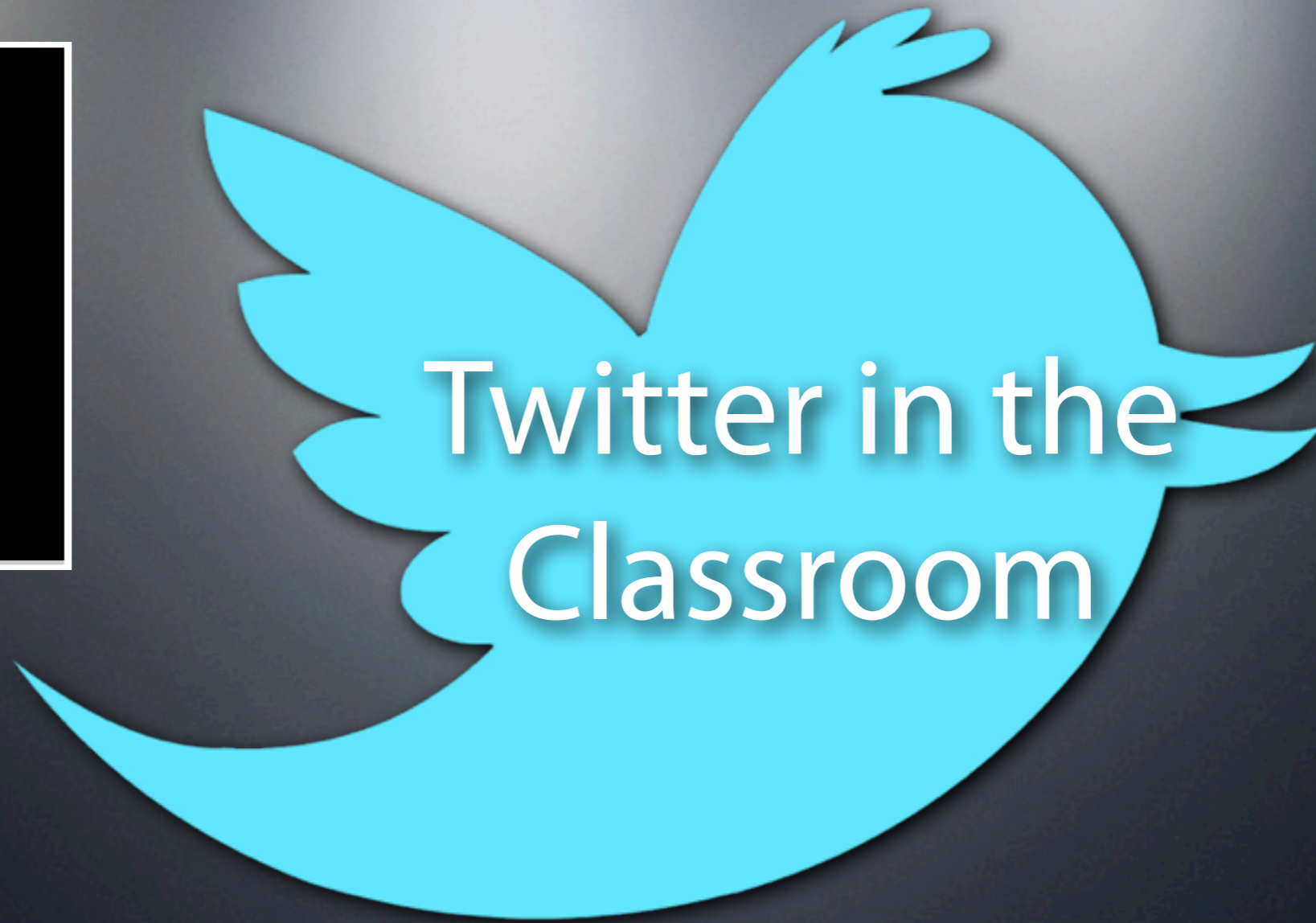
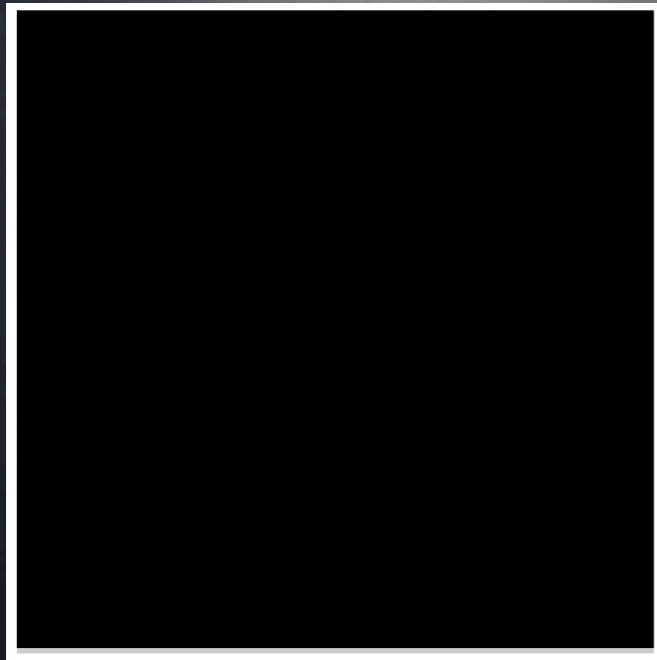
- Know your goals before you start.
- Be comfortable with Twitter and the processes your students will be learning.
- Adapt to the ways your students are using the tool to make the most of it.



Just one tool...

- Twitter is only one of many social networks, online tools and sources of connected media
- Use what is best for you, and try not to become too locked into a single system, change is the only constant in the 21st C.





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