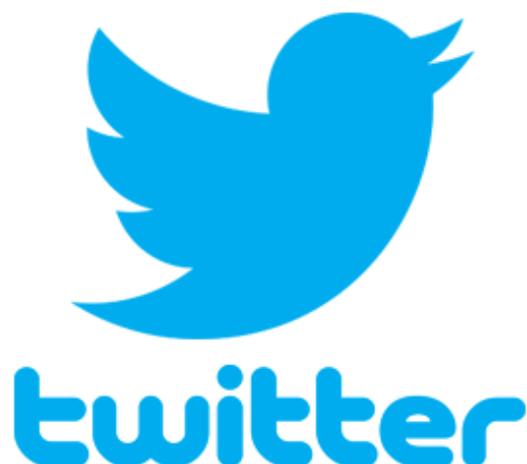


# Lesson – Taming the Tweet: Using Twitter to Engage Your FACS Students



## Lesson Overview

*In this lesson, you'll get ideas for integrating Twitter into your existing lesson plans. Engage your students by using Twitter in a variety of ways.*

## Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to:

- Identify specific ways to use Twitter to engage students in a variety of activities
- Understand how teachers use Tweets to communicate, find trends, research and more

## Lesson at a Glance

Activity	Materials	Preparation	Approximate class time
FOCUS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Internet access and Twitter access if possible</li> <li>• Optional Twitter tutorial</li> <li>• Simulation Experience Unit 4 – Lesson 1 from Basic Infant Care</li> <li>• <i>Master Twitter Username List</i></li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Make sure you can access the Internet and ascertain if you can access Twitter</li> <li>2. Print/photocopy <i>the Master TwitterUsername List</i> form</li> <li>3. Access Unit 4, Lesson 1 and print any materials if desired</li> </ol>	15-30 minutes
LEARN	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Caregiver Journal</i> worksheet</li> <li>• <i>Twitter Rubric</i></li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Print/photocopy <i>the Caregiver Journal</i> worksheet – one for each</li> <li>2. Print/photocopy <i>the Twitter Rubric</i> – one for each</li> </ol>	30 minutes
REVIEW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Infant Care Unit 4 Lesson 2 – Care Simulation Reflection</li> <li>• <i>#CareSimulationReflection Activity</i> handout</li> </ul>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Access Unit 4, Lesson 2 and print any materials if desired</li> <li>2. Print/photocopy the <i>#CareSimulationReflection Activity</i> – one for each</li> </ol>	45 minutes

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## FOCUS: Tweeting During the Readiness Activity

15 - 30 minutes

### Purpose:

This lesson will introduce participants to Twitter as a means to communicate and collaborate before, during and after the RealCare Baby simulation experience.

### Materials:

- Internet access and Twitter access if possible
- *Simulation Experience* Unit 4 – Lesson 1 from *Basic Infant Care*
- Master Twitter Username List

### Facilitation Steps:

1. Provide an introductory Twitter lesson in the classroom before assigning the Twitter activity. If possible show an available online tutorial or lesson on Twitter basics. There are many to choose from.
2. Have each student create an account, if they don't already have one. Once they have their account created, send around Master Twitter Username List so that students can provide their username or handle so you can track tweets and assess assignments.
3. Tell your students that each of their tweets must include a class hashtag such as #MsFACSClass. Try to choose one that is unique.
4. Part of the preparation prior to the RealCare Baby simulation experience is the *Readiness Quiz* and *Caregiver Journal* explanation. Cover those items in class but then tell the students that over the next few

days, that you will be tweeting some discussion questions. They will be expected to tweet an answer to each question that you ask on Twitter. These questions are in Unit 4, Lesson 1. We are extending the experience beyond the classroom by using Twitter rather than asking them during class. By providing students with your handle and unique hashtag, they should have no problem reading and responding to them. Students will be ready for the simulation after this activity as they have gone through the *Readiness Quiz* and *Infant/Toddler Schedule* (see *Basic Infant Care Simulation Experience* lesson.)

Here are the questions you will Tweet:  
(remember to keep them to less than 140 characters)

- How do you think others will react to Baby and how might you handle those reactions?#(your unique hashtag)
- What will you tell people who want to hold Baby?#(your unique hashtag)
- How can Baby's sensitive skin be protected?#(your unique hashtag)
- How will you handle emergencies?#(your unique hashtag)





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## LEARN: Using Twitter to Journal During the Simulation Experience

30 minutes

### Purpose:

Participants will receive their RealCare Baby simulators for the take-home experience. They will use Twitter instead of the Caregiver Journal worksheet to journal.

### Materials:

- *Caregiver Journal* worksheet
- *Twitter Rubric*

### Facilitation Steps:

1. Give each student their RealCare Baby and supplies. Also put the wristband with the ID on the student's wrist. Ensure you have the correct Baby and student matched up.
2. Give each participant a copy of the Caregiver Journal worksheet. Tell participants to look at the directions:

At least three times per day during the care simulation, write down your thoughts and

feelings about your caregiving experience.

Explain challenges you are facing or emotions you are feeling. This information will help you with the reflection assignment you will complete after you turn in your Baby.

3. Tell students that instead of writing down their thoughts and feelings, they will Tweet instead. Tell participants that they should Tweet a minimum of 3 times per day, explaining any problems or challenges, thoughts, or feelings. Remind them that all of their Tweets should include the unique hashtag you assigned at the beginning of the lesson. Also tell participants that they are expected to comment on at least one other Tweet from the class each day.
4. As the instructor, you should be able to easily find your students' Tweets as you have their handle and hashtag information. There is a suggested grading rubric for this Twitter assignment included in this lesson.





# Twitter Rubric

ELEMENT	Exemplary 3	Proficient 2	Partially Proficient 1	Unsatisfactory 0	POINTS
Content	Original tweets consistently provide value to the discussion.	Most original tweets provide value to the discussion.	A few original tweets value to the discussion.	Original tweets do not provide value to the discussion.	____/3
	Tweets are creatively and succinctly written to reflect problems, challenges, thoughts or feelings.	Most tweets are creatively and succinctly written to reflect problems, challenges, thoughts or feelings	A few tweets are written to reflect problems, challenges, thoughts or feelings.	Tweets are poorly written do not reflect problems, challenges, thoughts or feelings.	____/3
Frequency	Exceeds the required number of tweets per day.	Meets the required number of tweets per day.	Falls just short of meeting the required number of tweets per day.	Fails to meet the required number of tweets per day.	____/3
	Responds to tweets of classmates more frequently than required.	Responds to tweets of classmates as often as required.	Responds to tweets of classmates somewhat less often than required.	Responds to tweets of classmates too infrequently to meet the requirements.	____/3
Mechanics	Writes with no errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling.	Writes with minor errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation and spelling.	Writes with major errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. (3 or more errors per tweet).	Writes with numerous major errors in grammar, capitalization, punctuation, and spelling. (More than 5 errors per tweet).	____/3
<b>TOTAL POINTS</b>					____/15



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## REVIEW: Care Simulation Reflection Hashtag Activity

45 minutes

### Purpose:

This activity provides time for participants to share feelings, thoughts, and experiences about the care giving simulation experience. This hashtag activity is an alternative to the reflection discussion activity found in the simulation lesson in Basic Infant Care Unit Four, Lesson 2.

### Materials:

- *Basic Infant Care* Unit Four Lesson 2 – *Care Simulation Reflection*
- #CareSimulationReflection Activity handout

### Facilitation Steps:

1. Tell participants that today they are going to share some of the incidents or challenges that occurred while caring for Baby. They are going to do this in a creative, concise way – using hashtags.
2. Tell students that they are going to summarize and share what they felt, thought and experienced during the simulation in short, creative phrases. Ask students the following question: How did the car seat or carrier make things easier or harder?
3. Give students a moment to think and give some examples of possible hashtags. Give a few examples yourself.  
#itsreallyheavybaby  
#notenoughhandsforeverything  
#babysnugandsafe
4. Give students the #CareSimulationReflection Activity handout. Share these instructions with your students:
  - Hashtags should be made up of short phrases

- You will create one hashtag for each question on the grid. These should be creative and reflect your true thoughts and experiences.

5. After students have completed the grid, ask each question and have students share their hashtags.
6. If you are using *Basic Infant Care* Unit 4, Lesson 2, continue on by giving each participant a copy of the *Caregiver Self-Assessment* worksheet to complete.

### Extension Activities:

You can use Twitter for many applications. Here are a few suggestions for use in other FACS classes.

**Child Development:** Tell students that they are to tweet one observation per week of children age 0-3 that they see during that week. It could be a tweet on their behavior, activity, interaction with the parents etc.

**Culinary:** Have students track hashtags on a variety of culinary topics. These could be related to cooking techniques, recipes, culinary careers etc.

**Interior Design:** Challenge your students to research interior design ideas by typing related keywords into Twitter's search engine.

**Apparel Design and Construction:** Give students a challenge to come up with a top ten list of draping techniques. They may only use Twitter to do their research and create their list.

**Budgeting and Financial Literacy:** Have students tweet one tip each day for creating a successful financial future. They may use Twitter to research and retweet good advice from others.



# #CareSimulationReflection Activity

<p>What were your expectations about being the caregiver of an infant before you cared for Baby? #</p>	<p>What do you know now about being the caregiver of an infant after caring for Baby? #</p>	<p>How ready are you for the responsibilities of caregiving? #</p>	<p>What are the rewards of caregiving? #</p>
<p>What are the challenges of care giving? #</p>	<p>What knowledge might help you in meeting the responsibilities of care giving? #</p>	<p>What attitudes might help you in meeting the responsibilities of care giving? #</p>	<p>What attitudes might limit you in meeting the responsibilities of care giving? #</p>
<p>What skills might help you in meeting the responsibilities of care giving? #</p>	<p>What life experiences might help you in meeting the responsibilities of care giving? #</p>	<p>In what ways was caring for Baby easier than expected? #</p>	<p>In what ways was caring for Baby harder than expected? #</p>
<p>What did you learn from this experience? #</p>	<p>What suggestions do you have for improving the experience with Baby? #</p>	<p>What advice would you give a classmate who is going to take Baby home soon? #</p>	<p>What one thing will you remember as a result of this simulation experience? #</p>

