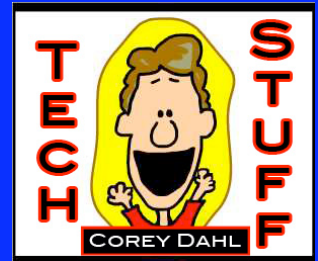


## Tech Stuff - Corey Dahl



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## Twitter = What are you doing? (in 140 words or less)

<http://twitter.com>

I'll start with a direct quote from the Twitter homepage, "Twitter is a service for friends, family, and co-workers to communicate and stay connected through the exchange of quick, frequent answers to one simple question: What are you doing?"

That's it, a question of "What are you doing?" is the whole premise behind Twitter. It is "micro-blogging." You may be wondering, "Why would I do this?" or "I don't get it, how is this helpful or useful?", I'll try to explain it as best as I can.

The beauty of Twitter is that, you "Follow" people. The people you "Follow" are part of your "Professional Learning Network"...which includes those who probably are doing a similar job or holding a similar position. When the person or people that you "Follow" has/have a comment, question, useful website, or maybe something interesting to say, they use Twitter to share that comment, question or website.



For instance: I "Follow" many people that are "Tech" people using Twitter. These "Tech" people find and share websites and post them on Twitter. Some of these people I know, some I've never met. I see their post and click on their link...I then share that link with others. I might then use it in my newsletter, or maybe I'll just share it with the people that "Follow" me.

Here's a PERFECT example. I shared (on Twitter) that I was writing an article for my newsletter about "Twitter" and I was thinking about how to best describe the "Power of Twitter." So, someone who "Follows" me, reads my post on Twitter and then shares a link to *their own* newsletter...that has an article about Twitter. MY JOB JUST BECAME EASIER...because I now have help in trying to explain Twitter.

Do you see what I mean? It's all part of the world we live in these days. There are MANY ways to get your work done, and by using a PLN (Professional Learning Network) and an application like Twitter, it can become easier and more informed! It's part of the "Connectivity, Collaborating and Sharing" puzzle!

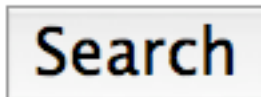
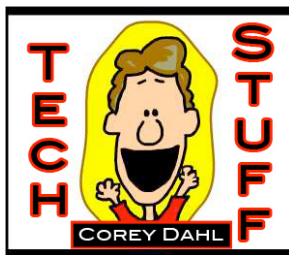
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(Twitter Continued...)

But wait, there's more! Did you know that congressmen use Twitter? I see Twitter referenced in cartoons, even basketball announcers this last weekend were referencing Twitter...it's everywhere! CNN uses Twitter in their broadcasts. Rick Sanchez (CNN broadcaster) uses the comments of people on Twitter daily. It's a whole new way they stay connected to their viewers/listeners. He'll ask a question using Twitter and his "Followers" share their thoughts. Then he displays or mentions their comments on the air. What a great way for them (CNN) to connect with their viewers!

So...why not get some of your peers to sign up and begin "Following" each other. If you're a superintendent, maybe follow other superintendents. If you're a 5th grade teacher, find other elementary teachers to follow. If you're a teacher that's interested in "technology," you should follow some "tech" people.

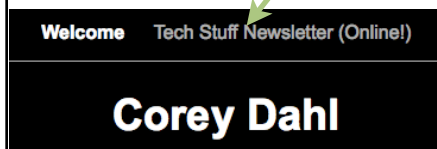
To follow Corey Dahl - Search "coreydahlesu8" when you sign up for Twitter and begin growing your network.



### Tech Stuff Online!

I have had many requests to put my "Tech Stuff" newsletter online.

So, I have begun that process. You can now view past newsletters by going to: <http://web.me.com/coreydahl> and click on the link at the top of the page that says "Tech Stuff Newsletter (Online!)" -see the picture I've included.



### Twitter Search Tool

<http://search.twitter.com>

Here's a Twitter "Search" tool. If you're interested in seeing what other people out there are saying about a certain topic, type it in the search and view their comments.

If you're wondering what's being said about Obama on Twitter, type "Obama" in the search.

This can be interesting if you're curious what others "out there in cyberland" are "Tweeting" about your topic.

### Find Educators on Twitter

<http://twitter4teachers.pbwiki.com>  
<http://twitterforteachers.wetpaint.com>

Here's a couple sites that has several links to lists of other educators on Twitter. If you're really looking for other teachers in your area of education, check out this site and see who you can find!

Bottom line is, this is a great way to expand your own personal "network."

March - 2009

**Here's some tips for being a good "Twitterer!"**

**<http://www.cnn.com/2009/TECH/02/26/pirillo.twitter.tips/index.html>**

**Here's a link with some other comments about Twitter!**

**<http://www.angelamaiers.com/2009/02/twitter-in-2-words.html>**

**Twitter Dictionary a.k.a = "Twittonary"**

**<http://twittonary.com>**

**Frequently Asked Questions Click on the link below!**

**<http://help.twitter.com/forums/10711/entries/13920>**

**TwitterKeys**

**<http://thenextweb.com/TwitterKeys/keys.php>**

If you want to spice up your "Tweets"...then use these fun pictures from TwitterKeys!

**TweetDeck**

**<http://www.tweetdeck.com/beta/>**

I like this application that has been created to help out with your "Tweets."

# ENJOY!

**Don't forget the "SUMMER TECH INSTITUTE"**

**June 15-17, 2009**

**@ the LifeLong Learning Center in Norfolk!**

**This is a technology event that's in your backyard!**

**Look for the registration soon and we'll see you then!**