

# TODAY'S TECHNOLOGY

## Twitter in the Classroom?

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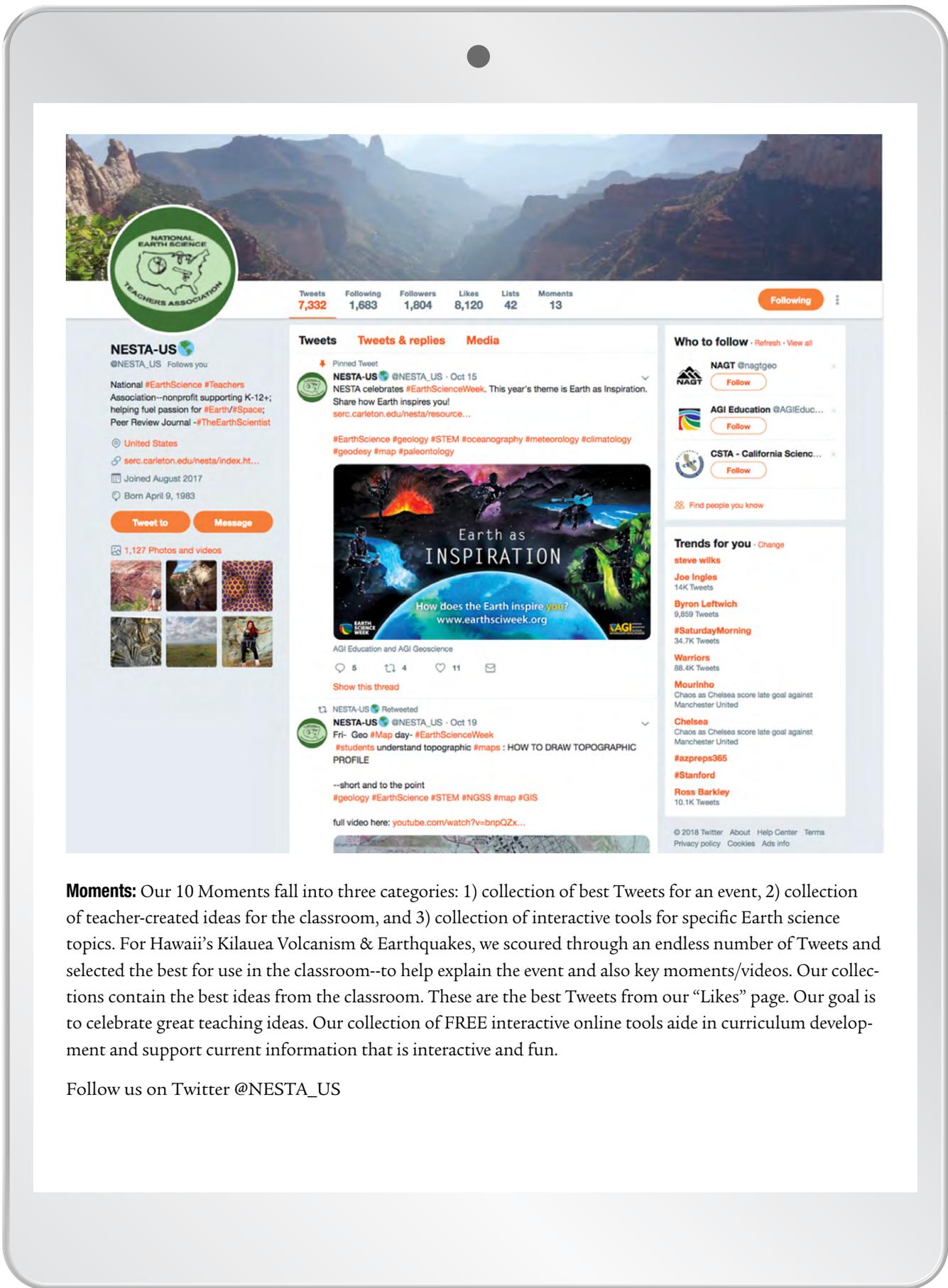
**S**ocial media has changed the landscape of teacher interaction. So you tried Facebook and possibly Instagram, but have you given Twitter a shot? Twitter is different from other platforms. All items posted are public, your feed displays in order of time written (this makes information new and quick), and you follow anyone you like not waiting for permissions. This makes the platform perfect for real-time updates of events/news and sharing of new research and information in general. No longer do we need to wait for organizations to give news on an event. Now you can hear it directly from the people on the ground, many of which are scientists. On Twitter you can follow only the information that you are interested in like real-time information on earthquakes and volcanos, or information you didn't know you wanted to know but really need to know like current research on how dinosaur bony tails evolved into bludgeoning devices.

### NESTA Twitter Page - Setup for Your Classroom

**Tweets:** Our personal Tweets and reTweets focus on classroom teaching ideas and current research in the geosciences, astronomy, hydrology, meteorology, climatology, paleontology, & oceanography. We follow over 1500 credible organizations and scientists, so you don't need to filter through their feeds and thousands of Tweets. Our Tweets consist of online FREE interactive tools, current Earth Science news, diagrams / graphs / maps to help explain complex issues, and opportunities for Professional Development.

**Likes:** Our Likes focus on classroom activities and teaching strategies. These come directly from teachers in the classroom or from Professional Development programs. Keep abreast of other's ideas and how they are tackling issues differently. Also, Twitter is a good way to find like-minded teachers and build relationships to help tackle those larger issues in the classroom.

**Lists:** We currently have 36 easy-to-navigate Lists with over 2500 organizations, scientists, and teachers organized into specific topics or groups of contacts. Want to see Tweets about specific topics, like Oceanography or High School Science teachers? Click a List topic and only the most current Tweets about that specific topic will show. These are put together to help select information you are directly teaching so that it fits your schedule and needs. Do you have difficult subject-related questions you would like answered? Our Lists are full of experts in their field. Write a personal Tweet to them to get your answer, or possibly set up a videocast with a scientist in your classroom!



**Moments:** Our 10 Moments fall into three categories: 1) collection of best Tweets for an event, 2) collection of teacher-created ideas for the classroom, and 3) collection of interactive tools for specific Earth science topics. For Hawaii’s Kilauea Volcanism & Earthquakes, we scoured through an endless number of Tweets and selected the best for use in the classroom--to help explain the event and also key moments/videos. Our collections contain the best ideas from the classroom. These are the best Tweets from our “Likes” page. Our goal is to celebrate great teaching ideas. Our collection of FREE interactive online tools aide in curriculum development and support current information that is interactive and fun.

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