

So you think you want to join Twitter!

A Step By Step Guide to Tweeting Today

1) Create a Twitter Account

- Go to Twitter.com
- Click on “Join the Conversation”
- Create your account by providing the following information
 - Name (first and last, but you can choose to only “show” your first name)
 - Username – mine is gifts2love
 - Password
 - Email address

2) Follow Other People on Twitter

The next pages you click through are called “**Find Sources.**”

Page One makes suggestions for you – you can skip if you want (you can always go back later), and get straight to the gifted people (gifted advocacy is not one of Twitter’s suggestions)

Page Two allows you to find your contacts from your own accounts if you are interested in that. I didn’t do this part either, because at the time I created my blog I wasn’t willing to share with my local friends that I created a blog about my gifted child. They all know her.

Page Three allows you to search for certain people. I suggest the following gifted Tweeters to get started:

Deborah Mersino

Kim Modolfsky

Carol Fertig

Gifted Homeschoolers

Jeanne Bernish

Jeff Shoemaker

My gifted girl

Missy Bedell

Deep Waters Coach

Theresa Haberman

When you click on them, you will have the option to “follow.” Do that, then you can always send them a message (called a “mention”) saying you are new to the gifted twitter community. They will then pass your name around to the other gifted Tweeters to help you find more. From any one of those, you can take a look at their gifted “lists” and follow those lists as well. This will get you well on your way to following gifted issues on Twitter!

3) Join Gifted Chats

Twitter - Gifted Chats - Fridays.

(Reprinted from my blog, <http://gifts2love.blogspot.com> this past Sunday)

Gifted chats happen on Fridays at noon and 7pm EST. Topics have included asynchronous development, twice exceptional children, homework, finding inspiration, parent advocacy groups, intensity/overexcitability, advocacy and meeting the social and emotional needs of gifted children.

The chats I've attended have been bursting with reference materials, WebPages to access, tips and ideas about the various topics. But more importantly, they've been filled with *people*, all of whom have gifted children in their lives, and the common threads between us have inspired hope in all. These chats are open to anyone interested in gifted issues facing children today - the only thing **you** need to do is join Twitter and find Deborah Mersino - who facilitates them. As a matter of fact, I highly recommend you [read through her blog posts](#) (**OAGC group - see the page on gifted blogs) from the past few weeks to give yourself an idea of how fortunate we all are to have her spearheading these chats.

Here's a mini step-by-step guide to get to Twitter gifted chats:

- **Create an account at [Twitter](#) (see above).**
- **Find Deborah Mersino and follow her.** @DeborahMersino is her Twitter username.
- **Watch her tweets for polls on #gtchat polls early each week, then vote!**
- **Check back on Thursday** to see what topics will appear at either noon or 7pm that Friday.
- **Show up at Twitter on Fridays** by typing #gtchats into the search box 1/3 of the way down the right sidebar.
- **Save that search.**
- **Click on #gtchat at the time of the chats** and follow along or provide your own input! Just make sure to add #gtchat somewhere in each tweet. This is called a hash tag and makes sure all of your tweets get to the gifted chat group so all can see.

It's that easy. Please contact me at msbede@gmail.com if you need help setting up an account on [Twitter](#) - it's pretty easy, but I remember feeling far afield of comprehension when I first created my account. You can also follow me there! - gifts2love.