



Day 1: Getting Started with Node.js & JavaScript

What is Node.js?

Node.js is like a superhero that lets JavaScript work **outside the browser**. Normally, JavaScript needs a browser like Chrome. But Node.js lets you run .js files directly from your computer's terminal.



Try this:

```
node app.js
```

Is React also a runtime like Node.js?

Nope! React is just a **toolbox** to help you build user interfaces (like buttons, forms, etc.) inside the browser. It reacts (get it?) when your data changes, and updates the page automatically.

Setup Checklist

- Make a folder for your code.
- Open it in VS Code.
- Run `npm init -y` to create a starter file.
- Make a file like `hello.js` and write:

```
console.log("Hello Node.js");
```

Boom! You just ran backend code! 🎉