App Inventor + IoT: Light Sensor

This tutorial will help you get started with App Inventor + IoT with a light sensor on an <u>Arduino 101</u> controller. We are also using a <u>Seeed Grove</u> shield for this tutorial. You do not need to use this board, but it does make things easier. The light sensor we recommend is the <u>Grove light sensor</u>.

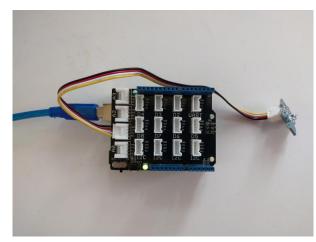
Before you start you should have first completed the App Inventor + IoT Setup

tutorial to set up your Arduino device.

 Connect the light sensor to the Grove board in the A1 pin connector.

For this tutorial make sure
 LIGHT_SENSOR is set to
 ENABLED and all others are set to DISABLED

 You should also click the arrow button in the top left to upload the code.

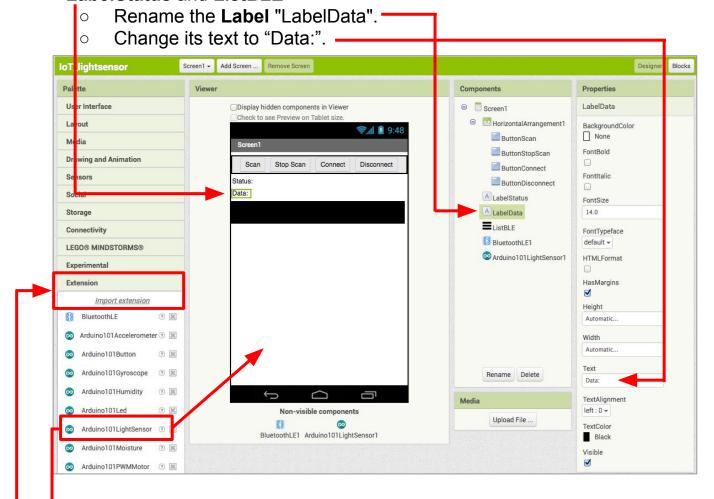


```
AIM-for-Things-Arduino101 | Arduino 1.8.1
                             Accelerometer.hh Button.hh Camera.hh Console.hh Fingerprint.hh
AIM-for-Things-Arduino101 §
 1 #define NAME
                            "App Inventor"
                                               // no more than 11 characters
2 #define DEBUGGING
                            ENABLED
4 #define ACCELEROMETER
                            DISABLED
5 #define BUTTON
                            DTSARI FD
6 #define CAMERA
                            DISABLED
7 #define CONSOLE
                            DISABLED
8 #define FINGERPRINT
                           DISABLED
9 #define GYROSCOPE
                            DISABLED
                            DISABLED
  #define LIGHT_SENSOR
                            ENABLED
13 #define PINS
                            DISABLED
14 #define PROXIMITY
                            DISABLED
15 #define PWM
                            DISABLED
16 #define RGBLCD
                            DISABLED
17 #define SFRVO
                            DTSABLED
18 #define SOUND_RECORDER
                           DISABLED
19 #define TEMPERATURE
                            DISABLED
21 // frequency to read sensor values in µs
22 const unsigned long SENSOR_UPDATE_FREQ = 50000;
23 const unsigned long IMU_READ_FREQ = 5000;
24 const double IMU_FILTER_ALPHA = 0.5; //Alpha for accelerometer low pass filter
26 unsigned long nextSensorUpdate;
27 unsigned long nextIMURead;
28 double dt;
30 const uint8_t BITS[8] = { 0x01, 0x02, 0x04, 0x08, 0x10, 0x20, 0x40, 0x80 };
31 const uint8_t MASK[8] = { 0xFE, 0xFD, 0xFB, 0xF7, 0xEF, 0xDF, 0xBF, 0x7F };
33 #include "common.h"
```

Next, you should complete the <u>App Inventor + IoT Basic Connection</u> tutorial to make the app connect to the Arduino device. If you prefer, you can download the completed .aia file <u>here</u>.

The remaining steps all build off of the the starter code for Basic Connection tutorial and .aia:

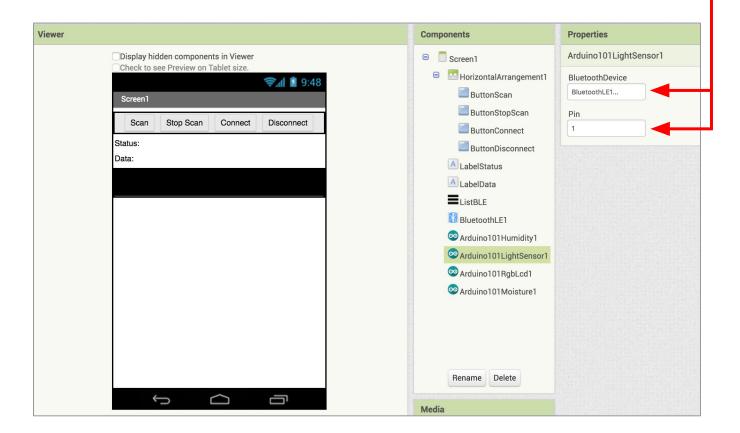
 Drag a Label from the User Interface Palette and drop it between LabelStatus and ListBLE



- Download the <u>Arduino101</u> extension pack to your computer.
- In the Palette, click on Extension at the bottom and then on "Import extension" and then "Choose File". Find the file on your computer and upload it.
- Add the Arduino101LightSensor extension to your app by dragging it onto the Viewer.

Next, we need to let App Inventor know which pin on the Grove board the light sensor is connected to.

- Click on Ardunio101LightSensor1 in the Components pane. -
- In the Properties pane, click on BluetoothDevice and select **BlutetoothLE1**. Under **Pin**, enter the <u>analog</u> pin that matches the one the light sensor is plugged into on the Grove board (in this case A1).
 - Note: You only need to set the number (1) not the letter (A).



Now switch to the Blocks Editor view

First, we want to set it up so that we request data updates when the sensor value on the Arduino changes.

from the Arduino101LightSensor1 drawer in the Blocks pane, add
 call Arduino101LightSensor1 .RequestLightUpdates to the existing
 when BluetoothLE1.Connected block

Next we need to store the data we receive from the sensor. From the Variables drawer in the Blocks pane, drag an **initialize global name to** block and name it "light". From the Math drawer add a number block and set it to "0". We'll use this to keep track of the sensor value.

```
initialize global light to 0
```

Let's make a new procedure to display the current readings in the **LabelData** when we get new data. You can create a procedure by dragging out a purple procedure block from the Procedures drawer in the Blocks pane. Let's rename it **updateDataLabel.**

- from the LabelData drawer in the Blocks pane, add set LabelData.Text to.
 - from the Text drawer, add a join block.
 - o from the Text drawer, add a text block and type "Light: ".
 - from the Variables drawer, add get global light.

```
to updateDataLabel
do set LabelData . Text to join "Light: "
get global light ...
```

Finally, we need to call the procedure when this data is received.

• From Arduino101LightSensor1 drag

when Ardunio101LightSensor1.LightSensorDataReceived

- o from the Variables drawer, add set global light.
- Hover over the orange "reading" in the .LightSensorDataReceived to
 see the get reading block. Drag the get reading block from this window and snap to set global light.
- from the Procedures drawer, add call updateDataLabel.

```
when Arduino101LightSensor1 .LightSensorDataReceived
reading
do set global light to get reading call updateDataLabel
```

Your app should now be working! Connect your Android device using the companion (if you haven't already). Test it out by shining a light at, or covering, the light sensor. If it is working, you should see the data label change.

