# How to Run a NodeJS Project

It's not always apparent how to run a nodejs project. When running a singular file with the node engine, you simply only type:

node filename.js

However, when running an entire application, things are slightly more difficult.

## package.json and scripts:

When you want to run a specific node project, you'll need to first look into the package.json. Unless the project you've downloaded is a utility module (we'll cover those later), you'll likely see that inside the module, there exists a scripts key.

{  
 "name": "introduction",  
 "version": "1.0.0",  
 "description": "",  
 "main": "index.js",  
 "scripts": {  
 "start": "mdx-deck deck.mdx",  
 "test": "echo \"Error: no test specified\" && exit 1"  
 },  
 "author": "Matt Lane <mjlane@monsanto.com>",  
 "license": "ISC",  
 "dependencies": {  
 "mdx-deck": "^3.0.13"  
 }  
}

Notice that the "scripts" key contains an object, with two subsequent keys, "start" and "test". "test" has only a sentence in it, but "start" has an actual command. To access this script, in the command line, you need to run:

npm run start

This will run the "start" script. This is how to start most node applications. Because this is JSON, however, any script name that you type in the "scripts" object will be an available option.

Running npm run start is how you will be able to access the slides for all of our notes.