Intro to Node.js

Ain't nuthin but an async thang

Node.js

- Uses Google's V8 JS engine
- relatively low-level JS interface; no "batteries included"
- "event-driven, non-blocking"
- http://nodejs.org/api/

Modules

- Looks sort of like CommonJS, but not really
- package.json
- Dependencies are stored locally relative to the folder
- http://npmjs.org

Callback hell?

- EventEmitter
- Promises, promises (Promises/A)
 - https://github.com/tildeio/rsvp.js
- Async libraries
 - o https://github.com/caolan/async
- Named functions
- Modules
- http://callbackhell.com/

WebSockets

- Long polling, comet, etc
- Howdy, you do:
 - o SocketIO
 - o SockJS
 - o NowJS
 - o SocketStream

Common patterns

- Callback with err as first arg
- Tiny modules that do one thing, published to npm
- Export one main function in files

Streams



https://github.com/substack/streamhandbook

http://maxogden.com/node-streams.html

Misc

- Fancy REPL
- SSL
- Debugger (ndb, chrome-inspector)
- Domains
- Hardware
 - https://github.com/voodootikigod/node-serialport
 - http://semu.github.com/noduino/
 - https://github.com/felixge/node-ar-drone
- Web frameworks
 - Express
 - Geddy
 - Flatiron
 - Strata