Node.js for Beginners

Lab Exercise 6
Answer Key

1. Take a Node.js app you've been working on and deploy it to Heroku.

First, write the 'Procfile.' Navigate your shell to the directory of your app, and run:

```
$ echo "web: node app.js" > ./Procfile
```

This assumes that the root script in your app is called 'app.js.'

Next, make a 'git' repo. Before actually creating the repo, get yourself a '.gitignore' file. This will keep the 'node_modules' directory out of your repo. [Here's] (http://www.gitignore.io/) a helpful resource. Now, run:

(This won't work if you don't have 'git' installed.)

```
$ git init
$ git add --all
$ git commit -m "initial commit"
```

You'll have to run the 'add' and 'commit' commands again when you make changes to your app.

Next, setup your Heroku account and download their commandline toolbelt. Once its installed, run:

```
$ heroku login
```

Follow their instructions and then run:

```
$ heroku apps:create myAppName
$ git push heroku master
```

Your app should be up on master.

learntoprogram.tv

2. Replace any MongoDB persistence with one of Heroku's MongoDB extensions.

First, add MongoLab by running:

```
$ heroku addons:add
mongolab
```

Now, you'll have a database attached to your dyno. To find the URI for the database run:

```
$ heroku config
```

You should see an output similar to this:

```
    === myAppName Config Vars

    MONGOLAB_URI:
mongodb://heroku_app21357211:qwqwwer5qh0sgm6r1illpqnae@
ds022471.mongolab.com:27479/heroku_appxxxxx4
```

Inside your app, replace any references to your localhost MongoDB database with the MongoLab URI:

```
mongoose.connect('mongodb://localhost/foobar');
```

Would become:

```
mongoose.connect(process.env.MONGOLAB_URI ||
'mongodb://localhost/foobar');
```

3. Add application logging with Winston.

First, remove all debugging 'console.log' calls. Find places in your app that you'd like to have logged, and replace them with 'winston.log' after requiring winston.

Then, setup a winston transport layer for MongoDB like this:

```
require('winston-mongodb').MongoDB;
winston.add(winston.transports.MongoDB, options);
```