**Environment Variables**

We talked about how you can create and use local variables in your shell:

name="Lane"

echo $name

# Lane

There is another type of variable called an [environment variable](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environment_variable). They are available to *all* programs that you run in your shell.

You can view all of the environment variables that are currently set in your shell with the env command.

To set a variable in your shell, use the export command:

export NAME="Lane"

You can then use the variable in your shell, just as before:

echo $NAME

# Lane

The interesting part is that programs and scripts you run in your shell can *also* use that variable:

For example, we can create a file called introduce.sh with the following contents:

#!/bin/sh

echo "Hi I'm $NAME"

Then we run it:

chmod +x ./introduce.sh

./introduce.sh

# Hi I'm Lane

**Assignment**

Take a look at the contents of the warn.sh script in the worldbanc/private/bin directory. It looks like it's supposed to print nicely formatted warning messages with worldbanc branding.

export the required environment variables:

* WARN\_MESSAGE: "The auditor is here"
* WARN\_FROM\_NAME: "Your worst nightmare"

codemaster@Money:~/worldbanc/private/bin$ ./warn.sh

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=========== WORLDBANC WARNING ==============

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The auditor is here

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From: Your worst nightmare

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