Name: _____ Date: _____ Class: _____

Activity 1: Getting Started Handout

Overview

This guide will take you through the steps to download the Arduino IDE, the software used to create programs for the Arduino. Then you can test to make sure that it and your Arduino work by running a simple, pre-made program called "Blink" (see below).

Download the Arduino IDE

1. Go to the Arduino website at www.arduino.cc

2. Go to the "Download" tab.

3. Scroll down to the sub-heading "Arduino 1.0.6." From here, download the version of Arduino 1.0.6 that's appropriate for your computer. (This may take a minute or two.)

4. Unzip or install the application. Then open the Arduino application. What opens is the Arduino IDE.

Test Your Arduino

To make sure your Arduino and the IDE are working correctly, have it execute a simple program that will cause an LED on the Arduino board to blink continuously.

5. Using the USB cable, connect your Arduino to your computer. You should see some lights on the Arduino board go on.

6. From the "Tools" menu in the Arduino IDE, go down to "Serial Port" and select the appropriate port. (**NOTE:** This may take a bit of trial and error.)
   - For Macs, the phrase "usbmodem" will be in the name of the port.
   - For PCs, the phrase "COM" will be in the name of the port.

7. If it is not already open, open the "Blink" sketch. To do this, go to the "File" menu > "Examples" > "Basics" > and then click on "Blink."

8. Now upload the "Blink" sketch. To do this, hit **Command + U.** (Or, click on the Upload Button in the Arduino IDE, which looks like an arrow pointing to the right.)

9. After a few seconds, you will notice one small LED on the Arduino board near Pin 13 turn on and off repeatedly. *Your Arduino is working!*