With that out of the way, it’s time to actually communicate with the FTDI. The specifics of each terminal program will be discussed in the following sections. This example will be shown in Cool Term, but be aware that this can be done with any terminal.

Open up a terminal with the correct settings: 9600, 8-N-1-None.

Make sure local echo is turned off for this test.
Take your jumper wire and connect it to the TX and RX lines of the FTDI Basic.

Now type!

Everything you type should be displayed in the terminal window. It’s nothing fancy, but you are now communicating with the terminal.
Data is being sent from your keyboard, to the computer, through the USB cable to the FTDI, out the FTDI’s TX pin, into the RX pin, back through the USB cable, into the computer, and is finally displayed in the terminal window. Don’t believe me? Unplug the jumper and type some more. Pending you did turn local echo off, you should not see anything being typed. This is the echo test.

**Extra Credit**

If you have two FTDI boards or other similar serial devices, try hooking up both of them. Connect the TX line of one to the RX line of the other and vice versa. Then, open two serial terminal windows (yes, you can have multiple terminal windows open at once), each connected to a different device. Make sure they are both set to the same baud rate and settings. Then connect, and start typing. What you type in one terminal should show up in the opposite terminal and vice versa. You’ve just created a very simplistic chat client!

Source: https://learn.sparkfun.com/tutorials/terminal-basics/connecting-to-your-device