



# Water makes Earth habitable.

## Fresh Water sustains life.

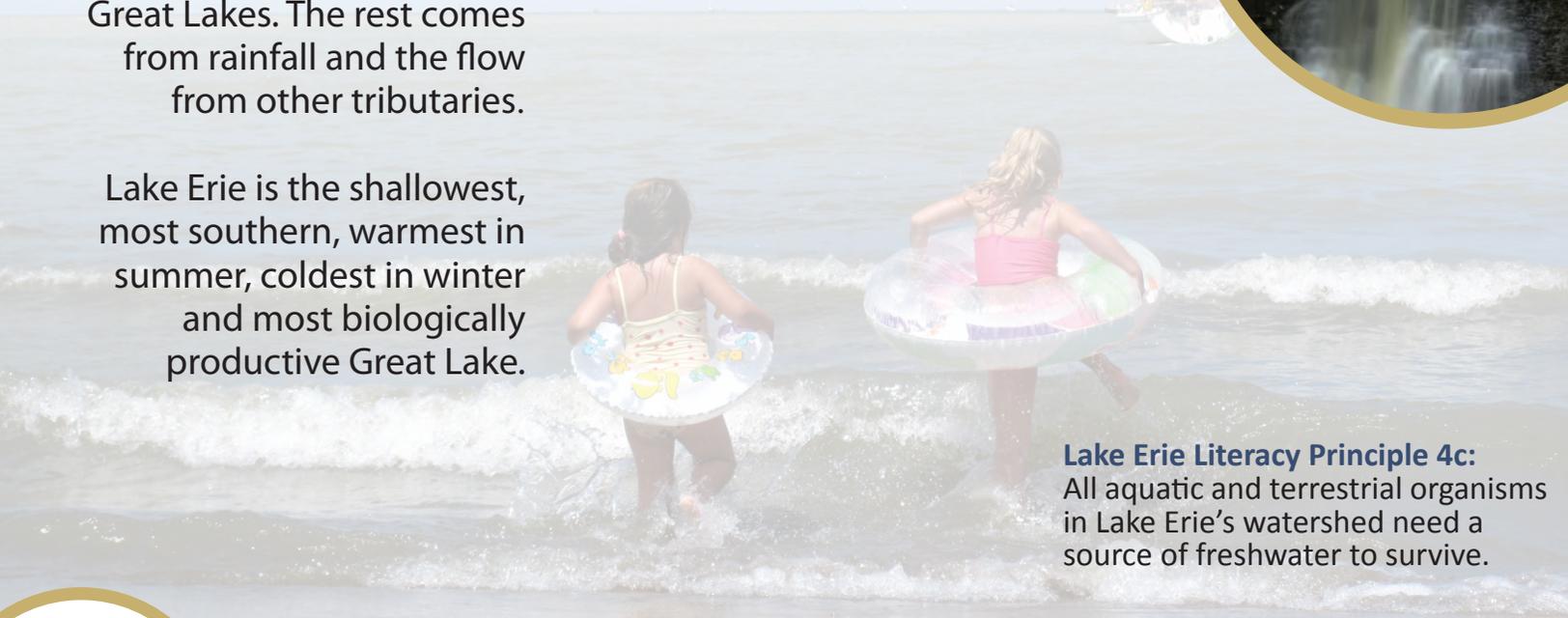
The Great Lakes contain 6 quadrillion gallons of fresh water which represents 95% of the United States' fresh surface water supply.

Lake Erie has about 2% of the water in the Great Lakes. The water is shared by Canada and the United States.

Around 80% of the 127.7 trillion gallons of water in Lake Erie flows down the Detroit River from the upper Great Lakes. The rest comes from rainfall and the flow from other tributaries.

Lake Erie is the shallowest, most southern, warmest in summer, coldest in winter and most biologically productive Great Lake.

*Lake Erie is the source of drinking water for more than 11 million people including 3 million Ohioans.*



**Lake Erie Literacy Principle 4c:** All aquatic and terrestrial organisms in Lake Erie's watershed need a source of freshwater to survive.

