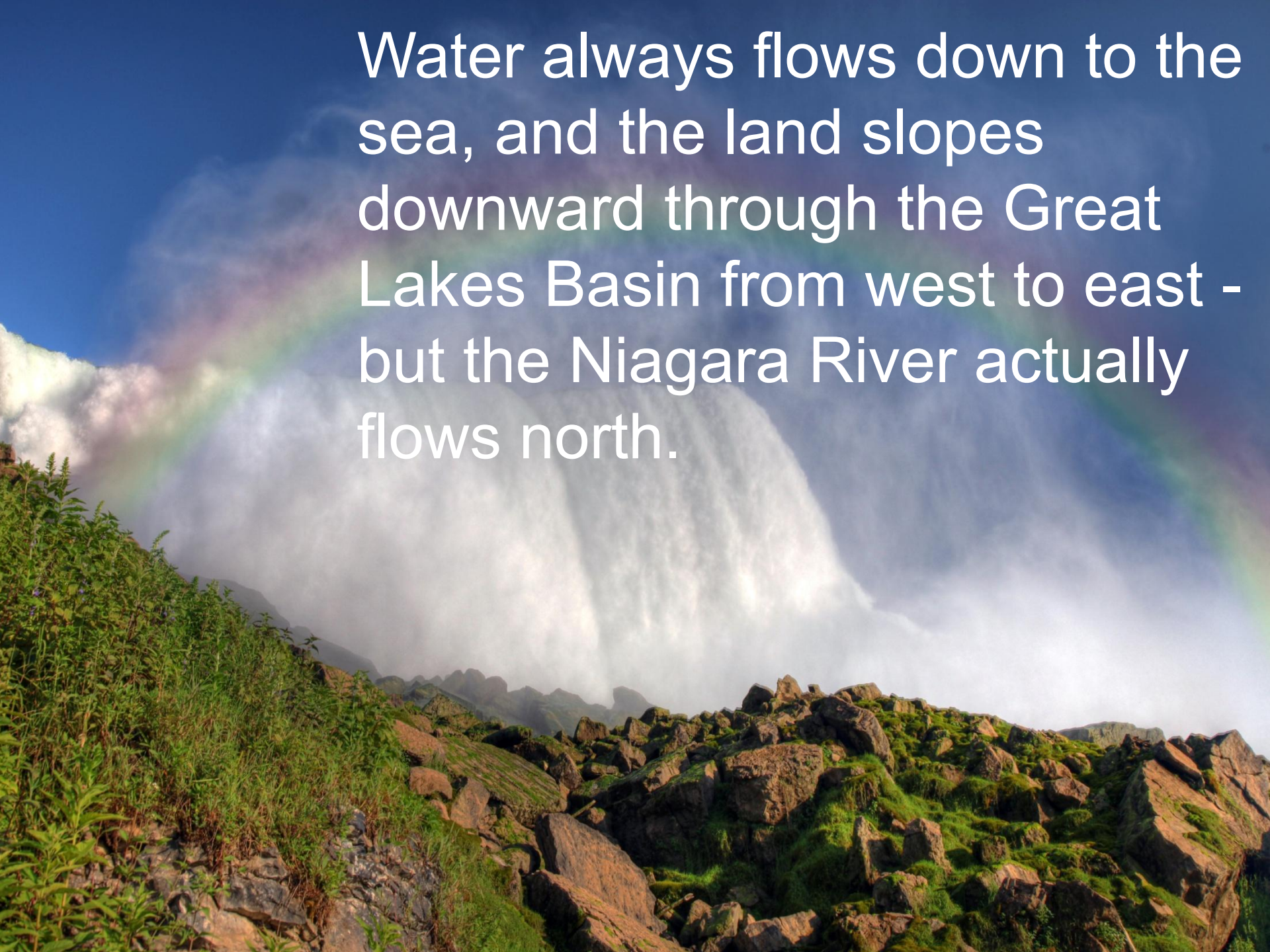
Niagara Falls

Facts

Niagara Falls is composed of three adjacent waterfalls on the Niagara River; Horseshoe, American and Bridal Veil Falls.

90% of the water of the Niagara River flows over Horseshoe Falls.



Water always flows down to the sea, and the land slopes downward through the Great Lakes Basin from west to east - but the Niagara River actually flows north.

The brown foam below Niagara Falls is a natural result of tons of water plummeting into the depths below. The brown color is clay, which contains suspended particles of decayed vegetative matter.


The beautiful green color of the Niagara River comes from the dissolved salts and very finely ground rock.


The Falls make a tremendous sound as the water goes over and lands at the bottom.

Where all the water that goes over Niagara Falls comes from?

The water drains from four of the five great lakes – Superior, Michigan, Huron and Erie – and plunges over the Horseshoe Falls at approximately 675,000 gallons per second during peak periods.

It is 16 stories tall.

Do the Falls freeze over in the Winter?
The flow of water was stopped completely over both falls on March 29th 1848 due to an ice jam in the upper river for several hours. This is the only known time to have occurred.


In the evenings, intense
spotlights bathe the falls with
different shades of color.