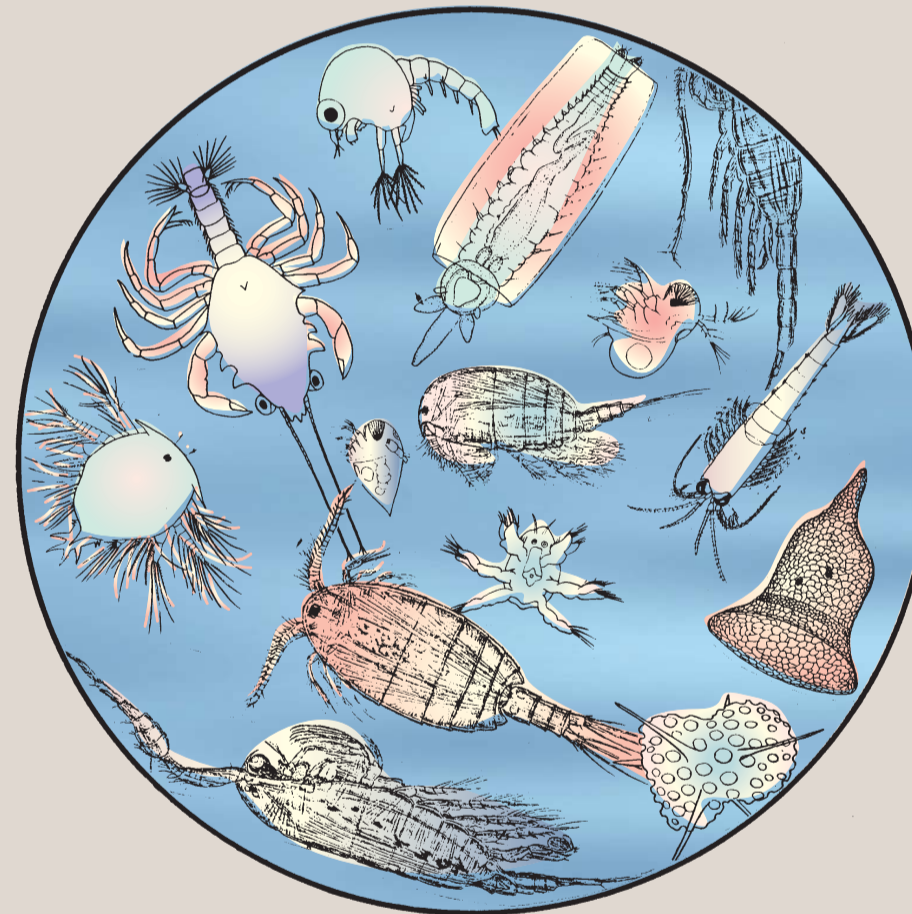


phytoplankton
need sunlight and dissolved nutrients for photosynthesis (size range: 0.001 – 0.1mm)

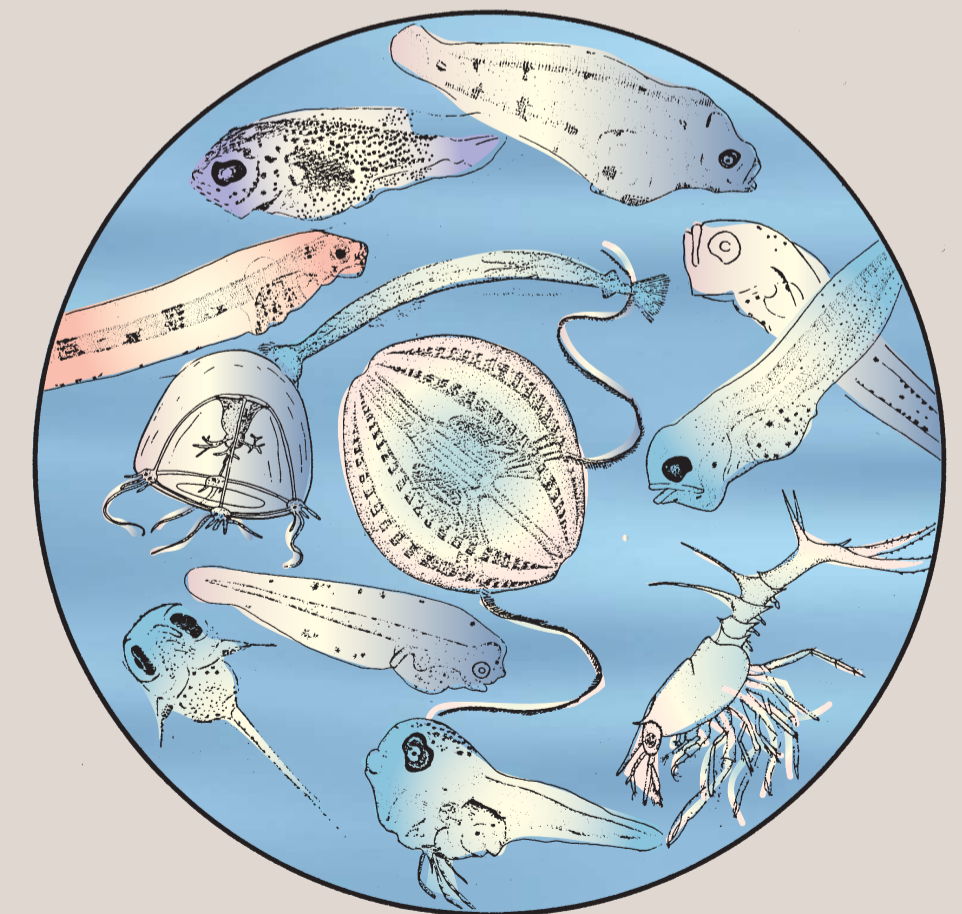
Plankton is the basis of all life in the sea. It consists of microscopic plants and animals that drift with the wind and currents.



herbivorous zooplankton
feed on phytoplankton
(size range: 0.3 – 3mm)

CEFAS' plankton studies mainly consider the eggs and larvae of fish. These studies are important for two reasons:

- The number of eggs and larvae that survive each year vary and produce variability in fish stocks.
- The number of eggs of a species found in the plankton can be used to calculate how many mature adults produced them.



carnivorous zooplankton
feed on herbivorous zooplankton
(size range: 2mm – 5cm)