

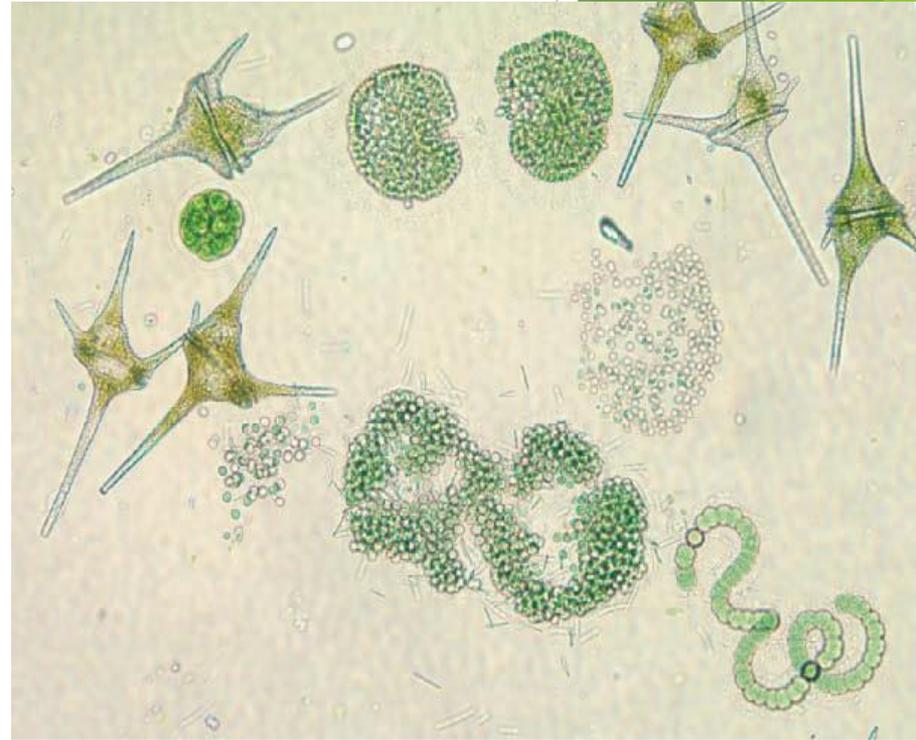


Introduction to Plankton 1

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Plankton

- ▶ Free organisms in water.
- ▶ It moved by the flows of water
- ▶ They are divided into two groups:
- ▶ zooplankton and phytoplankton.



Plankton live freely in the water, even if they have some special structures for movement, their movement is very limited.

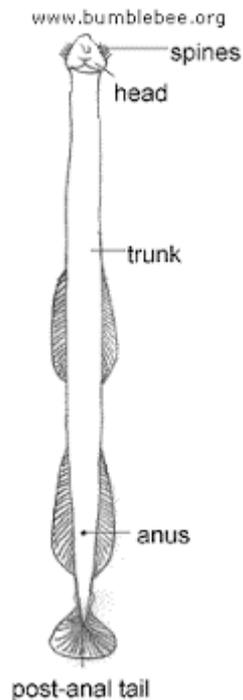
Plankton move by the effect of the water flows and they are the organisms which have passive movement.

Their movement is mostly vertical and they can move horizontal but limitedly.

The organisms which belong to this definition are belong to **chaetognats**, fish **larvae**, **pelagic crustaceans** and some **zooplankton**

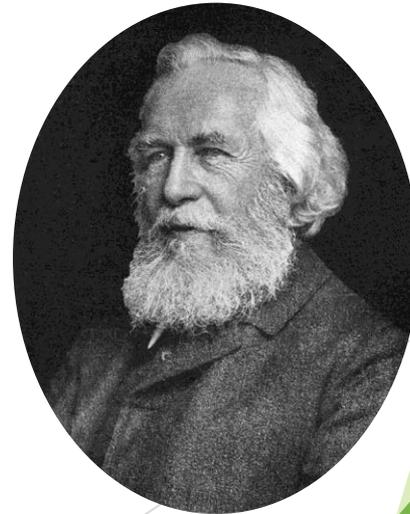
Coastal waters are rich in meroplankton

Nearly all marine fish have planktonic larvae



The History of Plankton

Plankton defined as today's meaning according to studies at the end of 19th century by Victor Hensen (1886) and Haeckel (1890).



Term of plankton derived from *planktos which means* circulating and drifting.

Plankton are classified in different ways according to different purposes by the scientists.



New Studies

- ▶ Counting and defining the biodiversity of phytoplankton
- ▶ Thousands of species can be counted in a minute by using an optic technic which name is “Flow cytometry”
- ▶ Scientists have discovered a new species which are small but many and they are called *prochlorophytes*
- ▶ Investigation on evolution and relations between different plankton species by using DNA studies

