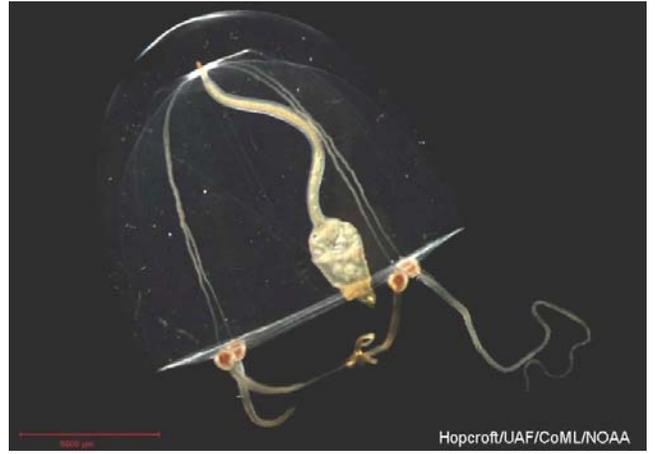




Karl Van Ginderdeuren/World Register of Marine Species

COMB JELLY



Hopcroft/UAF/CoML/NOAA

HYDROMEDUSA



Photos from © www.micrographia.com

COPEPODS

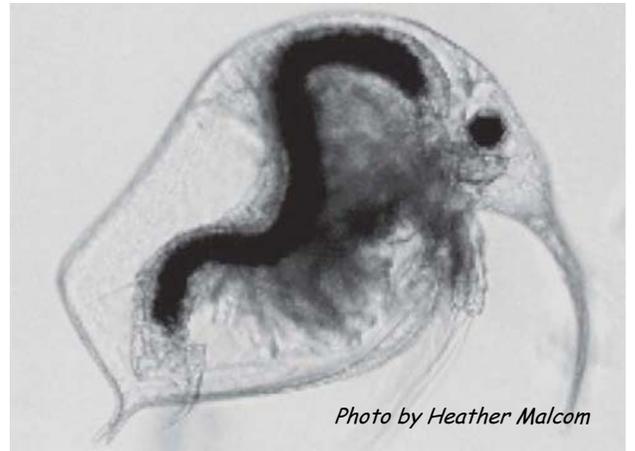


Photo by Heather Malcom

WATER FLEA



Photo by Piet Spaans

PHANTOM MIDGE LARVA



Photo by Marco Spiller

ROTIFER

ZOOPLANKTON of the HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY

HYDROMEDUSA

What is it? *Sarsia tubulosa* is a hydrozoan; related to jellyfish & sea anemones

How big is it? to $\frac{1}{4}$ in. across

What does it eat? tiny zooplankton

Where does it live? ocean, estuaries, bays; brackish & salt water

What is its life cycle? alternates body form; planktonic hydromedusae release eggs that hatch & become hydroids - plant-like forms fixed to the bottom; hydroids produce buds that break off to become new hydromedusae

COMB JELLY

What is it? *Mnemiopsis leidyi* is a ctenophore; unlike jellyfish, it lacks stinging cells

How big is it? species shown (up to 4 in. long)

What does it eat? smaller zooplankton, larval fish, fish eggs

Where does it live? ocean, estuaries, bays; brackish & salt water

What is its life cycle? hatches from egg; young generally look like adult

WATER FLEA

What is it? *Bosmina freyi* is a crustacean; water fleas are properly called cladocerans

How big is it? to 0.6 mm

What does it eat? detritus, algae, plants; some water fleas eat tiny zooplankton

Where does it live? lakes, ponds, rivers, marshes, estuaries, bays; fresh & brackish water

What is its life cycle? hatches from egg; looks a little like adult but molts many times before maturing

COPEPODS

What is it? crustacean; one of many species in genus *Cyclops* (left) & genus *Diaptomus* (right)

How big is it? species shown less than 2 mm ($\frac{1}{10}$ in.) long

What does it eat? detritus, algae, smaller crustaceans

Where does it live? ponds, lakes, rivers, marshes, estuaries, bays, oceans

What is its life cycle? egg hatches into nauplius larva, which after 5-6 molts becomes copepodid larva; becomes adult after 5 more molts

ROTIFER

What is it? an animal in phylum Rotifera; many species

How big is it? up to 2 mm ($\frac{1}{10}$ in.) long, but most are much smaller

What does it eat? detritus, algae, bacteria, & other tiny zooplankton

Where does it live? lakes, ponds, rivers, marshes, estuaries, bays; fresh & brackish water

What is its life cycle? hatches from egg as tiny version of adult

PHANTOM MIDGE LARVA

What is it? an insect; one of many species in genus *Chaoborus*

How big is it? species shown up to $\frac{3}{4}$ in. long

What does it eat? larva eats small crustaceans, other zooplankton

Where does it live? ponds, lakes, rivers, marshes; fresh water

What is its life cycle? larva hatches from egg laid in water; a few weeks or months later forms a pupa; after a few days a flying adult emerges - it lives up to a week

ZOOPLANKTON of the HUDSON RIVER ESTUARY