



Plankton — Drifters of The Sea

Plankton play a vital role in life on earth. Students discover the importance of plankton, use technology in real-time to observe plankton features, and use the engineering design process to build their own species and put it to the test.

Grade: Kindergarten, Elementary, Middle School

Standards Supported

Next Generation Science Standards:

K-2-ETS1-2. Ask questions, make observations, and gather information about a situation people want to change to define a simple problem that can be solved through the development of a new or improved object or tool.

2-LS4-1. Make observations of plants and animals to compare the diversity of life in different habitats.

5-PS3-1. Use models to describe that energy in animals' food (used for body repair, growth, and motion and to maintain body warmth) was once energy from the sun.

5-LS1-1. Support an argument that plants get the materials they need for growth chiefly from air and water.

MS-LS1-6. Construct a scientific explanation based on evidence for the role of photosynthesis in the cycling of matter and flow of energy into and out of organisms.

MS-LS2-3. Develop a model to describe the cycling of matter and flow of energy among living and nonliving parts of an ecosystem.

MS-ETS1-2. Evaluate competing design solutions using a systematic process to determine how well they meet the criteria and constraints of the problem.

Ocean Literacy Principles:

Principle 4. The ocean made Earth Habitable

Principle 5. The ocean supports a great diversity of life and ecosystems

Principle 6. The ocean and humans are inextricable interconnected

