



**Gundalow
COMPANY**

Protecting the Piscataqua region's
maritime heritage and environment
through education and action

[603.433.9505](tel:603.433.9505) | www.gundalow.org | 60 Marcy Street, Portsmouth, NH 03801

The Wonderful World of Plankton

Nature Walk Activity

What are plankton?

- Plankton live in fresh and saltwater.
- There are 2 types of plankton: zooplankton (animal plankton) and phytoplankton (plant plankton).
- Phytoplankton produce oxygen O₂ and are eaten by zooplankton.

Location:

If you can find a watery habitat, you can find plankton! Plankton are the tiniest organisms living in any water ecosystem. Therefore, they are an important part of the food chain. While on this quest, you will find creatures that depend on plankton.

Discovery Questions:

- What do you think eats plankton?
- Some plankton are larval forms of organisms, what do you think they might turn into as they grow?



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Ready to embark on your *Nature Walk*?

See if you can record evidence for all your observations below:

- ☐ Can you find a vernal (seasonal) pool?
- ☐ Find something that is floating
- ☐ See any organisms building a nest?
- ☐ Can you name a smell from nature?
- ☐ Discover any frog eggs?
- ☐ Can you hear a woodpecker?
- ☐ Can you see a wood frog (they are well camouflaged)?
- ☐ Can you hear peepers?
- ☐ Discover any frog eggs?
- ☐ Find a robin tugging at a worm.
- ☐ Describe something new that you observed.