Ecosystem of marine waters.

The ocean is the largest habitat on Earth. Marine animals are just as dependent on plants as those living on land. The most important representative of marine vegetation is phytoplankton, which is so small that it can only be seen under a microscope. In the marine food chain, phytoplankton is the primary producer. Phytoplankton grows just below the water's surface, where plenty of sunlight reaches, necessary for photosynthesis. This plankton is food for microscopic organisms called zooplankton, which serve as the food source for larger marine animals.

Oceanic food web.

Phytoplankton are single-celled algae. If you have the opportunity, try looking at a drop of water under a microscope, and you will see the beautiful patterns in which phytoplankton arrange themselves.

Fascinating facts.

The marine food chain includes some of the largest and smallest living organisms in the world. The Blue Whale and Krill. Krill is a tiny shrimp-like zooplankton found in the seas of Antarctica. What's astonishing is that krill is the sole food source for the Blue Whale, which can grow up to 35 meters in length. The whale filters entire swarms of krill from the water using a structure called a baleen, which resembles a comb and hangs from its palate.



