Zooplankton of the Great Lakes

Zooplankton are tiny creatures that live in the water. Most are too small to see without a microscope!

- Baby zooplankton (Nauplius)
- Parasitic zooplankton hitch a ride on fish!
- These zooplankton like to eat tiny floating plants or plant-like phytoplankton.
- Water fleas and others hide deeper in the water during the day to hide from predators and at night come to the surface to feed.
- Baby fish eat them.
- Predatory zooplankton are much larger.
- Some live at the bottom of the lake or in the sand.
- Some have a slimy coat to protect them.
- This spiny water flea is an invasive species that hunts other species.
- Eggs on back.
- In hibernation.