CHAPTER 4

Picture key for major zooplankton taxa

No	Character	Taxon	Examples
1	Unicellular	Ciliata	
1a	Multicellular2		
2	With obvious legs/antennae 3		
2a	Without obvious legs/antennae 4		
3	Large compound eye; body with carapace of bivalve appearance, segmentation unclear; large antennae	Cladocera	
3a	Eye small; body elongated or cylindrical, with clear segmentation; antennae usually large	Copepoda	
3b	Single minute eye spot; body small, unsegmented; with 3 pairs of appendages	Nauplia of Copepoda or Cirripedia	
4	Body cylindrical or sack- shaped, covered with cuticle or lorica, usually <200 µm; head with ciliated corona	Rotifera	
4a	Body > 200 μm 5		
5	Body segmented, with parapodia and prominent bundles of chaetae	Polychaeta, larvae	
5a	Body not segmented; without spines 6		

No	Character	Taxon	Examples
6	Body oval, elongated or arrow-like 7		
6a	Other body shape8		
7	Oval or elongated trunk; long tail with notochord	Appendicularia	
7a	Large arrow-like body (15-45 mm) with paired lateral fins	Chaetognatha	
8	Medusa-like9		
8a	Other shape 10		
9	Medusa-like	Cnidaria	
9a	Biradially-symmetric comb-jelly-like	Ctenophora	
10	Snail-like	Gastropoda, larvae	
10a	Bivalve-like	Bivalvia, larvae	
10b	With large projections	Echinodermata, larvae	
10c	Bell-like	Bryozoa, larvae	