



ARCTIC FOOD WEB CARDS



Photo: Patti Virtue

Algae convert solar energy into chemical energy.



Photo: NOAA

Copepods and other invertebrates (animals without a backbone) feed on microscopic algae.



Photo: Sandra Zicus

Polar bears prefer to eat ringed and bearded seals, but will also eat arctic fox, walrus and beluga whales.



Photo: Merrick Peirce

Arctic fox eat ringed seal pups.



Photo: NOAA

Arctic cod eat krill and other aquatic invertebrates.



Photo: Sandra Zicus

Ringed seal eat arctic cod, as well as other fish.



Photo: Sandra Zicus

Walrus eat bottom-dwelling organisms such as clams.



Photo: NOAA

Beluga whales eat primarily fish, such as Arctic cod.



Photo: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

Clams eat algae.

Arctic Smorgasbord Activity



BBC

Eider ducks are benthic feeders. Some eiders (like spectacled eiders) are endangered or threatened species. Common eiders are harvested by humans.



www.arcodiv.org

Sea ice amphipods feed on ice algae and are food to seals and birds



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Bowhead whales are feeding on euphausiids and crustaceans in the plankton.

Arctic Smorgasbord Activity



<http://www.oceanriver.org/GeorgeDivokyLoriWark.php>

Black Guillemots feed mainly on fish and have been studied for decades on Cooper Island. Their main food is Arctic cod.



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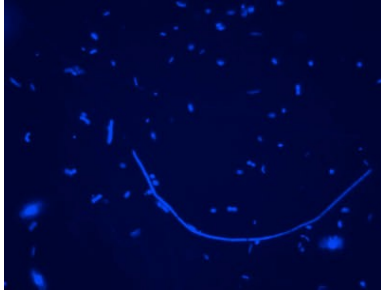
Euphausiids are pelagic crustaceans that feed on phytoplankton. They are important food to fish and to bowhead whales in the Arctic.



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Jellyfish (Scyphozoa) occur in all parts of the world's ocean. They eat zooplankton and small fish.

Arctic Smorgasbord Activity



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Bacteria are important decomposers in all Arctic marine habitats. The breakdown of dead organic material and organic material released from phytoplankton and are important food for protozoans.



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Chaetognanths (also called arrowworms) are important planktonic carnivores. They live at all water depths in the Arctic Ocean and are ambush predators on copepods.



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Pteropods are pelagic snails. While most species feed on phytoplankton and bacteria, some species are predators. They are important food for fish and birds.

Arctic Smorgasbord Activity



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Sculpins are benthic fish. They eat benthic invertebrates like worms and clams. They are important food for other fish species and birds.



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Polychaetes are benthic worms. They eat either detritus (including bacteria) or invertebrates like worms and clams. They are important food for other fish species, grey whales and walrus.



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Isopods are benthic crustaceans. Their feeding strategy varies widely including herbivory, carnivory and scavenging. They are important food for other fish species, grey whales and walrus.

Arctic Smorgasbord Activity



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Decapods are benthic crustaceans. They are scavenger and/or predators on other benthic animals like polychaetes and clams. Some are commercially harvested.