

Task #2: Phytoplankton and Zooplankton

Phytoplankton provide an important source of energy for the animals in the lake. They do this by carrying out photosynthesis while suspended in the water.

Zooplankton provide important food to fish, especially young fish. The zooplankton feed on phytoplankton and bacteria.

1. Obtain a concentrated sample of zooplankton collected from Lake Mead.
2. Observe the zooplankton with your naked eye and then with a magnifying glass.
3. Sketch zooplankton you see into your notebook.
 1. How do the zooplankton swim?
 2. How do the zooplankton feed?
 3. Why do some of the zooplankton have spines on their body?

Task #3: Bacteria Sampling

Bacteria are found in all natural water, we have techniques to determine the presence of bacteria that indicate contamination and possible health risks.

1. Obtain photographs of bacteria samples from different locations
2. Count the yellow  and blue fluorescent  cells
3. Use the table on the back of the photo to determine the number of bacteria in the sample.
 1. Why does the lab use this technique to count bacteria?
 2. Which sample has the least bacteria and why?
 3. How is bacteria removed from water?