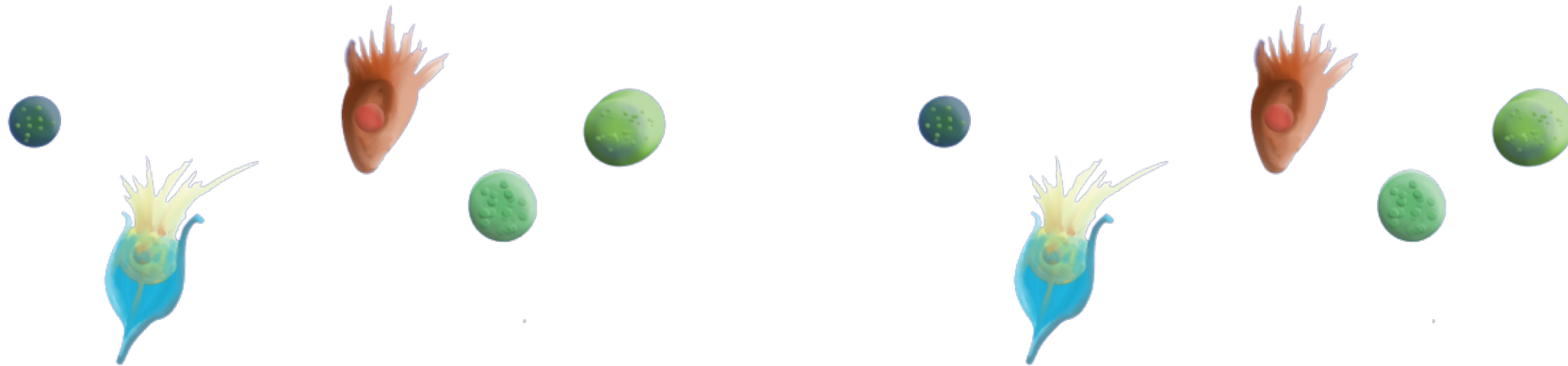


**We also eat other microscopic organisms, such as ciliates, which are similar to little balls with disheveled hair, and many different types of algae in addition to diatoms.**



**To learn more:** Copepods have a very varied diet in nature, and with their consumption, they keep populations of algae and other microscopic organisms under control. They also contribute to the recycling of nutrients and are key in the export of carbon from the surface to the bottom of the oceans.