

WATER FLEA

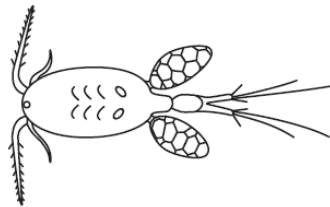
The Cyclops



Size:

0.5 to 5mm long

Key Features:



These tiny creatures are free-swimming and live for about 3 months.

Body is divided into 2 sections. Front of body is large and oval with the head and one giant black eye (like in Greek legend). They have long antennae and 5 pairs of legs. The rear section is much thinner, ending in a point with 2 tiny spikes.

The colour of the cyclops water flea depends on what it eats, so can be red, orange, green or even blue!

The female cyclops will have 2 egg sacs attached to the back of her body.

Feeding:

They are omnivorous, eating algae and other microscopic creatures.

Amazing facts:

They are actually tiny crustaceans – so are part of the crab and shrimp family!