

ARCTIC BENTHOS

Single-celled organisms

Algae that photosynthesize
(mainly diatoms)

Bacteria, fungi and others that
recycle organic matter

Seaweeds
in shallow
waters

Multi-cellular invertebrates

Microscopic invertebrates (meiofauna)
Common: nematode worms and
copepod crustaceans

Invertebrates 1 mm to 1 cm (macrofauna)
Common: polychaete worms, bivalves (clams)
and amphipod crustaceans

Invertebrates bigger than 1 cm (megafauna)
Common: echinoderms (sea stars, brittle stars,
sea urchins, sea cucumbers, sea lilies)

