**Asset Information Page**

**Krill**

**Sticky Note 1:**

**Krill are small, shrimp-like crustaceans found in oceans worldwide. Despite their size, they are one of the most important organisms in marine ecosystems, serving as a key food source for many large marine animals.**

**Appearance:** Krill have a translucent, segmented body with a hard exoskeleton. They typically range from 1 to 6 centimeters in length. Their bodies are equipped with numerous legs and antennae, and they often glow in the dark due to bioluminescence.

**Habitat:** Krill are found in all the world’s oceans, but they are most abundant in the cold waters of the polar regions. They form large swarms in the open ocean, often near the surface where they feed on phytoplankton.

**Movement:** Krill swim using their swimmerets, small appendages on their abdomen, and can propel themselves quickly in short bursts. They often migrate vertically in the water column, rising to the surface at night to feed and descending to deeper waters during the day.

**Diet:** Krill are primarily herbivorous, feeding on phytoplankton and algae. Some species are omnivorous and may also consume small zooplankton. Their feeding behavior plays a critical role in the ocean’s carbon cycle.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 1---------------------------------------------------------

**Sticky Note 2:**

**Krill are a cornerstone species in the marine food web, providing essential nourishment for a wide variety of predators, including whales, seals, penguins, and fish.**

**Reproduction:** Krill reproduce by laying eggs, which hatch into free-swimming larvae. The reproductive cycle and timing can vary depending on the species and environmental conditions. Large swarms of krill often synchronize their reproductive cycles.

**Social Structures:** Krill are highly social and often form dense swarms that can extend for kilometers. These swarms provide safety in numbers, reducing the likelihood of being eaten by predators.

**Communication:** Krill communicate and coordinate within swarms through chemical signals and possibly through bioluminescence. Their synchronized movements and swarming behavior are crucial for survival.

**Survival Skills:** Krill are highly adaptable to different environmental conditions, with a life cycle closely linked to the availability of food and suitable temperatures. Despite their resilience, krill populations are affected by climate change, overfishing, and changes in sea ice cover, which can impact the broader marine ecosystem.

-------------------------------------------------------End of Sticky Note 2---------------------------------------------------------