Archipelago Sea species

Sand gaper (Mya arenaria)

Sand gapers are suspension feeders that live

buried in the sand or sediment

Eats: Plankton, diatoms and suspended

particles

Lifespan: 10 – 12 years. Maximum 28 years

Temperature tolerance: Up to 29 °C

Size: Up to 5 cm

Bluemussel

(Mytilus trossulus)

A bivalve that attaches to hard surfaces and

filters food from the water

Eats: Plankton and microalgae

Lifespan: Lives for up to 10–12 years **Temperature tolerance:** Around 25-28 °C

Size: 1-4 cm

Perch

(Perca fluviatilis)

This fish lives in both fresh and brackish waters and

is known for its striped appearance.

Eats: Mainly crustaceans and smaller fish.

Lifespan: Lives for 10-12 years **Temperature tolerance:** Up to 31 °C

Size: Up to 50 cm

Harris mudcrab

(Rhithropanopeus harrisii)

Native to North America; now invasive in parts of

Europe including the Baltic Sea.

Eats: Omnivorous – feeds on mussels, clams,

amphipods isopods and detritus.

Lives for 1-3 years

Temperature tolerance: Up to 36 °C

Size: Up to 2 cm

Who eats whom?

Detritus, phytoplankton and microalgae

Bladderwrack

(Fucus vesiculosus)

A seaweed, providing shelter for many species.

Lives on rocky substrates

Eats sunlight

Lifespan for 2-5 years at depths of up to 6 meters

Temperature tolerance: Around 25-27 °C



Snails, amphipods and isopods

Hydrobia, Idotea, Gammarus, Jaera...

Some of the species that live in bladderwrack

Eats green, red and brown algae

Lives for 1-2 years

Temperature tolerance: Varies – some are

more sensitive than others

Size: 0.1 – 1 cm

