

PLANULA

Meaning: Planula: a free-swimming, ciliated larval stage of certain marine invertebrates, formed after fertilization and typically settling on a substrate.

1. The planula is a free-swimming larval stage observed in certain marine invertebrates.
2. After fertilization, the zygote develops into a planula before settling on a substrate.
3. In coral biology, the planula represents a crucial phase in the life cycle of the organism.
4. Scientists study planulae to understand the dispersal patterns of various species in the ocean.
5. The planula eventually metamorphoses into a polyp, marking the next stage of development.

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