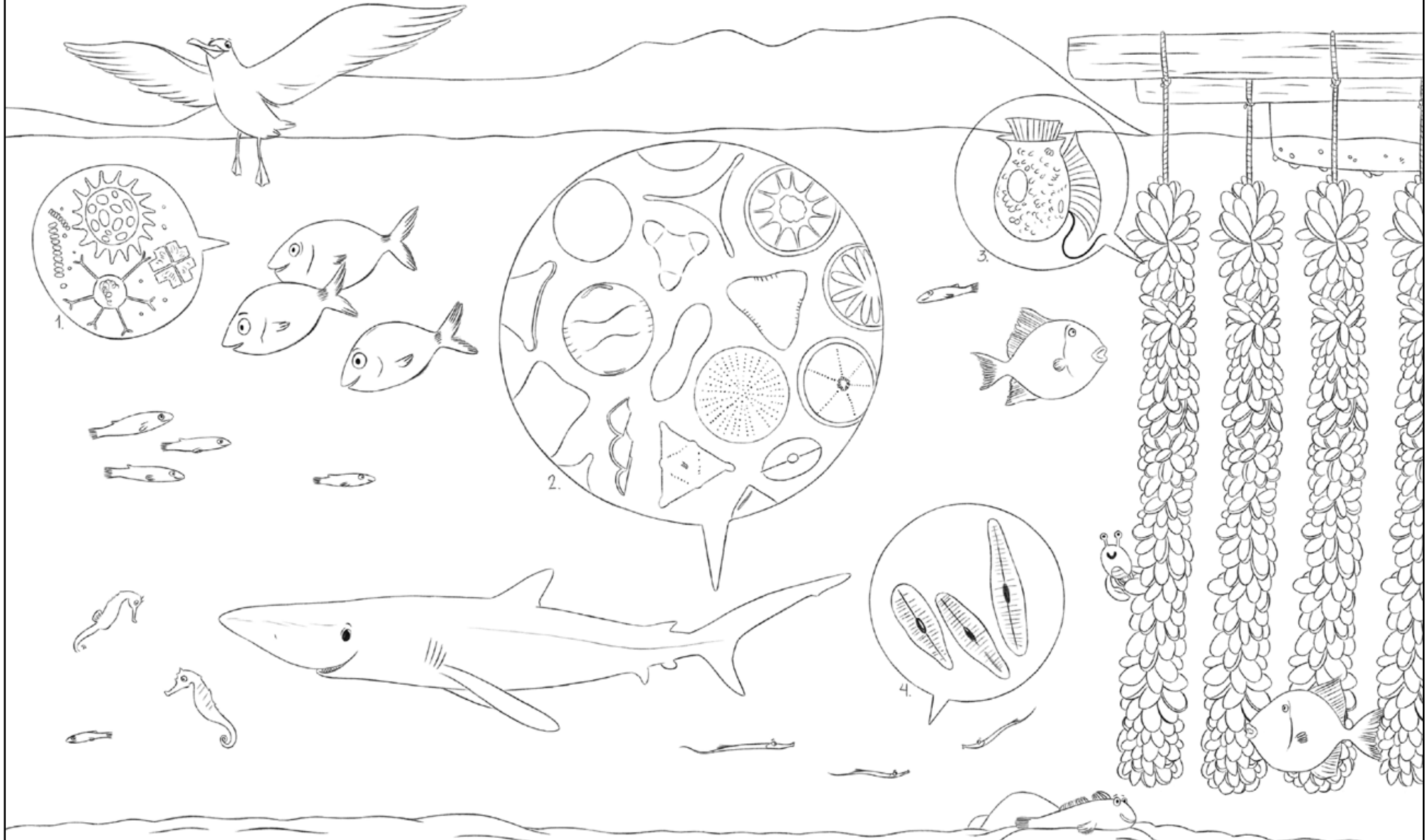


Phytoplankton, our amazing microscopic friend

Phytoplankton (1, 2, 3 and 4) are the small microorganisms that live floating in watery environments. They are the foundation of the aquatic food web and marine ecosystems. In addition, they are so crucial for the life of the whole planet because they photosynthesize. Phytoplankton are extremely diverse, varying from diatoms (2 and 4) to dinoflagellates (1 and 3) and different in shape, size and color (1, 2, 3 and 4). They are the food of many fishes (1, 2 and 4) and mollusks (3) in the ocean. Also, phytoplankton are responsible for the release of 50 % of the oxygen that we breathe on the planet. They consume CO₂ and are a good mechanism of absorption of CO₂. In fact, phytoplankton absorb a quarter of CO₂ that humans generate every year.



Paulo Alcaraz

He is a graduate of Marine Science from the University of Vigo. He has long-standing experience in oceanography due to his collaboration with the Biological Oceanography Group of Vigo's University since 2015. He has participated in several oceanographic campaigns in international waters and presented papers at international conferences. Moreover, he has collaborated in scientific dissemination activities organised by FECYT and Xunta de Galicia. Nowadays he is a PhD student at DOMAR.

Pablo Rosendo

He is a Galician illustrator who resides in Vigo, with 15 years of professional experience and an infinity of awards that guarantee his well-doing. Pablo can say that he has done everything.

He has worked for companies, publishing houses and entities, he has published children's books, and has illustrated more than 50 school textbooks. One of his publications is *Sendas de Ons* (Ons paths) by El Patito Editorial and *Cies e Roque: Operación Reconquista* (Cies and Roque: Reconquest Venture) by Lobito Bueno.

Nowadays, he has decided to place a storefront in order to work more closely to those public that window-shops at 30 Progreso Street in Vigo. He is responsible to recreate in drawings all of those moments and images that his customers want to immortalize.