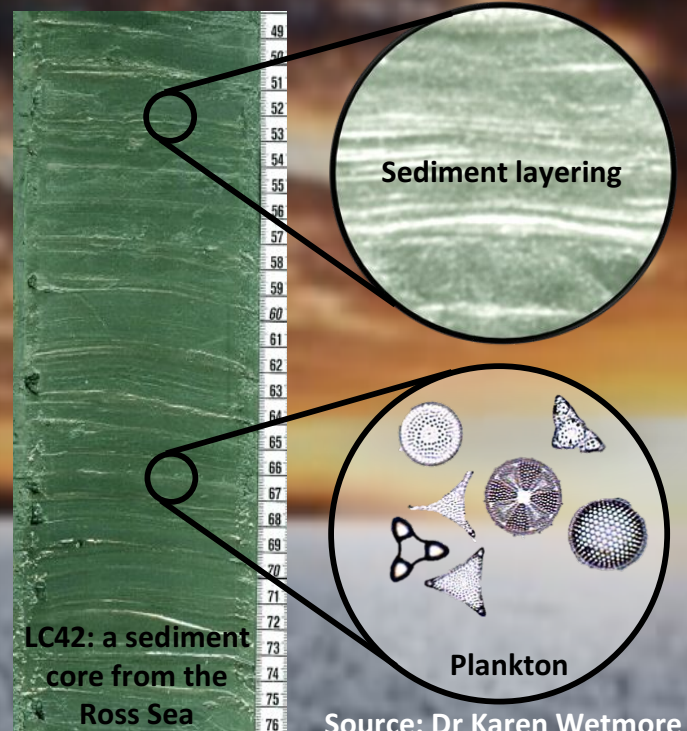


# Ancient Antarctic Oceans: As clear as mud

The history of the ocean is recorded in **sediment**.

Sediment collects at the sea floor. It is made of **plankton**, mud, sand, and gravel. It also holds chemicals. These tell us about the ocean's **saltiness**, **temperature**, and **chemistry**.

We can look back in time by studying sediment that was buried long ago, to find out how the environment, climate, and oceans were at the time it was deposited.



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**Using sediments from the Ross Sea, we are studying:**

How ocean currents in the Ross Sea have varied in the last 1 million years.

How these changes affect the glaciers, ice shelves, and sea-ice in the Ross Sea.

What can this teach us about modern climate change and global sea-level rise.



Source: GoogleEarth

