

## ***Sendung mit der Maus – Warum brummen Fliegen?***

### **Why do flies buzz?**

Länge: 4'13''

This is an ordinary housefly.

When it flies, it buzzes.

In summer, there are a lot of flies  
inside the house.

Flies often fly against windows  
as they always fly into the light.

Flies often sit on the panes  
and clean themselves.

As you can see,  
the fly's body is covered by an armour.

This armour holds the fly's body together.

Flies inside a house are in search of food-  
which they slurp through their proboscis.

This fly here, for instance,  
is drinking spilled lemonade.

There's a lot of sugar in it.  
And flies love sugar.

This is the wing of a fly.

The fly also cleans its wings very often.

Flies are very small,  
but their buzzing is all the louder.

So the question is:

Why do flies buzz so loudly?

Our filmmaker Herbert tries to find the answer.

He's caught a fly.

Yes, it sounds like a really huge buzzer.

But why does the fly buzz?

When flying, the fly moves its wings  
up to a 1000 times per second.

Herbert is too slow,  
but makes a noise with the papers.

The faster he moves, the higher the sound.

It is the same with the fly.  
The wings move up and down so quickly-

that they make a sound.

But the fly also makes noises  
with something else.

Herbert wears a knight's armour  
that rattles, when he moves.

Exactly the same happens with the flies.  
The small parts of its armour rub-

and make a noise, as well.

So: The whipping wings  
and the small rattling armour parts

cause the typical buzzing of a fly.

But now it has worked enough  
and can be set free again.

Where will it fly?

Will it stay in the city?  
Or will it move to the country?

Ah, it has chosen the country -  
a very good idea.

There are a lot of cows and fellow flies.

Unfortunately the buzzing is a problem there.

The buzzing gives the flies away.  
And the cows chase away the flies-

by waving their tails, blinking  
and shaking their heads.

From the eyes the flies suck a little liquid on which they feed.

Flies also like the liquid coming out of the nose.

The cows not so much.

Cows even use their ears to chase away the flies.

Another reason why there are flies on cows- they meet other flies with whom they mate.

The flies lay eggs in the cowpats.

A lot of other flies come out of them, if no cow treads on them.