



Hi there,
I am—

Phew!
Hey, ok.
I'm called—

Right,
my name is—

SWAT!

Ouch!
Frankie.

Uncle Freddo asks if I'm ok.
I'm not ok. I tell him how these
humans keep swatting me like
I'm just some annoying pest.
It makes me so

ANGRY!

Angry, huh?
Maybe you're ready
to know the truth about
us flies. Come with me,
Frankie.

FLIGHT SCHOOL

Humans wonder why we are so hard to catch.
One reason is we're the world's best fliers.
Uncle Freddo takes me to see
how we train.

We beat our wings
220 to 1000 times
a second. Birds only beat
2 or 3 times a second.
How do they stay
in the air?

JOIN F.A.F.



WE WIN IN THE AIR!
FLY AIR FORCE

HALTERE



HALTERE

OTHER INSECTS
NEED FOUR WINGS

FLIES ONLY NEED TWO WINGS

TWO WINGS FOR
VICTORY!

FLY AIR FORCE

Our secret
weapons are our
halteres. They give
us balance and tell
us our position
and speed.

Tilt your
wings to fly
straight up,
Fletcher.

A message to move
gets from our brain to our
wings in 5 milliseconds!

Perfect
backwards
take-off,
Flynn.

PAPER-DROP

SWAT
MATIC

WALL OF SHAME

Hello from WAITOMO CAVES

BLACK SOLDIER FLY ↓

Humans love these superb recyclers. Every day their larvae turn four times their body weight in rubbish into nutrient-rich poo, perfect to grow things in.



← NEW ZEALAND GLOWWORM

These fungus fly larvae love showing off their bioluminescence (glow). Humans flock to see the caves they call home. They've even given the flies a cute name. Yuck!



↑ FLOWER FLY

Embarrassingly, flies are the second biggest pollinator after bees. (At least they don't give humans honey.)



BLOWFLY

When a crime happens blowflies are first on the scene, helping human police work out how long ago the crime took place. ↘



BLUE BOTTLE LARVAE

While the rest of us are trying to get the humans, these larvae work with nurses to heal human wounds. →



Uncle Freddo tells me that flies must never work for humans. But there are some oddballs who bring shame on their families by doing good and helping people.



He was always such a bad boy when he was little. Where did we go wrong?

MILLIMETER RULER



↑ This is the size of the biting midge in real life. 1 to 3mm!

← BITING MIDGES

The worst offenders, these flies are the only thing small enough to pollinate the tiny flowers of the cacao tree. Cacao beans make chocolate, so these midges are making millions of humans happy!



It turned out Blooming Garden Centre was not such an easy target. Those cowardly humans managed to close their invisible force field against us!

Click!

OUCH!

FLY CLUB TOP SECRET REPORT

Evil Plan: Garden Centre Carnage

Result: Failure

Dr. Bottle's daring raid on the den of fly-enemies called Blooming Garden Centre met with disaster. A human closed the invisible force field without our spies noticing.

Losses: 5 dead, 15 missing (suspected to be in the garden centre manure pile)

Plan B: try again in the summer, when our numbers will be greater and more invisible force fields are left open.



Dr Bottle