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MY LITTLE PONY IV
"Testing, Testing, 1, 2, 3"
Episode 422
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ACT I**TEASER****1.) INT. PONYVILLE – DAY**

RAINBOW DASH is flying among the clouds having a great time whooshing this way and that. Down on the ground, TWILIGHT is reading a book. But when she sees Rainbow, she furrows her brow with concern. What is that pony doing? She's supposed to be studying! Twilight puts her book in her saddlebag and takes off after Rainbow, planning to sneak up on her. But before Twilight can even get close enough to yell out Rainbow's name, Rainbow swoops up doing a loop-de-loop and comes down right next to Twilight, surprising her instead! Twilight is stunned. How did Rainbow even know she was there? Rainbow scoffs. Please! She saw Twilight giving her the stink eye from the ground and she heard her flying towards her muttering from a mile away!

Twilight starts losing it, saying that if Rainbow heard her muttering then she knows that she shouldn't be flying around. She should be studying for the big History of the Wonderbolts test. Twilight reminds Rainbow Dash that she can only qualify to join the newly formed Wonderbolts Reserves if she passes this test. Rainbow tells Twilight to calm down. After all, not everypony gets all freaked out about tests the way Twilight does. A defensive Twilight insists that she does not get "all freaked out about tests". Rainbow Dash shoots her a look, "seriously?" Twilight admits that perhaps she does get a tiny bit freaked out about them, but that doesn't mean Rainbow Dash shouldn't be studying. And she knows just the pony who can help her. She wraps a wing around Rainbow Dash. "This is going to be sooooo much fun!" Twilight enthuses. Rainbow Dash doesn't look so sure as we...

END TEASER**2.) INT. GOLDEN OAKS LIBRARY – LATER**

Completely anxious about the situation but determined to help her friend, Twilight has made a Study Checklist of various ways she plans to help Rainbow Dash prepare for her test. First up: A History Lecture. Standing before the blackboard, Twilight starts writing key points while verbally emphasizing them as well. But Rainbow already seems antsy and asks, "Is it snack time?" Twilight sighs, "No." "Recess?" asks Rainbow. "No," Twilight replies more firmly. She then Twilight asks Rainbow to just get comfortable and experience the magic of learning.

But Rainbow isn't feeling the magic and just cannot to get comfortable. Sitting on a stool, she moves her bottom around this way and that trying to settle in. In doing so, she discovers that the seat has a little squeak. Amused by this, Rainbow starts moving her hindquarters back and forth and back again, playing with these squeaky sounds. Soon she's come up with a funky beat that she squeaks while moving her hips this way and that. Each squeak is like nails on a chalkboard for Twilight who is trying her best to teach a lesson.

Finally Twilight can't stand it anymore and magics the stool out from Rainbow's bottom, causing her to thump to the floor. Rainbow is startled by this and looks at Twilight who is looks less than pleased with her student. Rainbow sheepishly shrugs and Twilight returns to her lesson. But as soon as Twilight starts speaking, Rainbow shifts again, this time discovering that there is a squeak in the floor. Rainbow's about to start up her squeaky serenade when Twilight loses her cool and shouts that they are going to study outside!

3.) EXT. GOLDEN OAKS LIBRARY – LATER

Out under the peaceful and non-squeaky trees, Twilight takes a deep breath recomposing herself. Reviewing her Study Checklist, she puts a check next to the blackboard icon. Next on the list: Reading and Highlighting! Seeming more comfortable out in the open, Rainbow hunkers

down and really focuses. Twilight is pleased with herself, confident that her teaching techniques are working on Rainbow. She asks to see the important points Rainbow has highlighted in the book.

But when Twilight looks at the page, Rainbow has highlighted *everything*! Twilight turns the page and it's entirely highlighted as well! The next page has a drawing of Rainbow Dash looking totally awesome. And the next page has a comical picture of a tall "teacher" Twilight barking out orders with checkmarks all around her head. Twilight is not amused. She does not teach by yelling and she is not that tall! (But in driving that point home, Twilight does raise her voice and does seem taller than usual.) Rainbow looks at her picture of Twilight and laughs to herself.

4.) EXT. GOLDEN OAKS LIBRARY – LATER

Twilight is looking a bit more frazzled as she somewhat reluctantly puts a check next to the book icon on her Study Checklist. She tells Rainbow that there's one more study technique on the list and it's her favorite. Flashcards! Levitating the cards, she starts quizzing Rainbow on Wonderbolt History facts. But before she can finish reading a card—FOOM!—it's knocked out of the air. Twilight looks up to see if anything fell from the tree but there's nothing. She asks Rainbow if she saw what happened, but Rainbow looks innocent and notes that she was too busy focusing on Twilight's amazing lesson. Baffled, Twilight moves on and she starts reading the fact on the second card when suddenly—FOOM!—it's knocked down as well. She whips around trying to find the culprit. Still nothing and Rainbow is sitting perfectly still like an angel.

Twilight knows something is up and turns to her next card, but as she starts to read it, she quickly turns her head and catches Rainbow just as she's blowing a spitwad through a straw. It hits Twilight square in the forehead. Twilight is now boiling mad. If Rainbow can horse around so much, she clearly must be ready to take the test. "Clearly!" agrees Rainbow. After all, they've been studying all day. And Twilight has the best methods ever, right? So it must all be in her noggin!

Twilight gets a gleam in her eye. "Well then, I guess you're also ready for a...Pop Quiz!" Rainbow shrugs at this announcement, feeling ready as ever. Twilight magics up a quiz and starts asking Rainbow Wonderbolt History questions. Rainbow answers each one with something that she clearly believes to be correct, but is obviously ridiculous and incredibly wrong. Twilight keeps a calm poker face as she marks the quiz after each answer. When they finish, Rainbow cockily states, "See? Totally ready." Twilight gives her a doubting look. "Except that you got every fact wrong!" Rainbow looks at Twilight in disbelief. Twilight turns the quiz around for Rainbow to see. Every answer is marked in red. Rainbow FAILED! If she had taken the official test today, her dreams of being in the Wonderbolts Reserves would have been gone forever!

What is she going to do? The test is tomorrow and she's running out of time!

ACT II

5.) EXT. GOLDEN OAKS LIBRARY – CONTINUOUS

Rainbow is now completely bugging out. She's gonna fail! And...it's all Twilight's fault! Twilight turns to her friend stunned. Her fault? What? How can it be her fault? Rainbow states that maybe Twilight's not the awesome teacher she thinks she is. Hearing this, Twilight is horribly offended. Her study methods are proven! She has used them for many a test and passed. And she's an excellent teacher! After all, SHE actually knows the entire History of the Wonderbolts. Twilight starts rattling off fact after fact proving her point. Hearing this, Rainbow looks wounded, "Rub it in, why don't cha?"

Besides, why does she even have to take this lousy test? The Wonderbolts are a flying squad and she's proven she's one of the best fliers around. Why in Equestria does she need to know

the History of the Wonderbolts to be able to fly? Twilight explains that as important as the flying element of the Wonderbolts is, knowing their origin and being able to represent them properly is also important. Rainbow argues that this rule must have been made up by some history buff like Twilight while Twilight argues that knowing history actually *is* beneficial.

The two continue to bicker when Fluttershy comes up and “shouts” for them to stop. Do they really have time to fight when Rainbow has a big test coming up? Twilight explains that Rainbow is completely unprepared for her test and just isn't absorbing the information though Twilight's study methods. Rainbow Dash is desperate. She has to learn all this information—and fast! Fluttershy brightens, thinking that she has just the solution.

6.) EXT. GAZEBO – A LITTLE LATER

Rainbow and Twilight sit in the audience as Fluttershy announces that they are about to see a historically accurate reenactment of the History of the Wonderbolts as interpreted by the pets and the critters. But as amusing as it is to see TANK as the first Wonderbolt, OPALESCENCE as Celestia and ANGEL as Luna, by the end of the play, Rainbow Dash is more befuddled than before.

However, PINKIE PIE (who saw the performance and was immediately drawn in) thought it was brilliant! But she totally understands why it didn't click for Rainbow. After all, the best way to get something stuck in her head forever and ever is with a song! Pinkie then quickly rattles off a History of Wonderbolts rap, summing up all the facts into a hip little ditty. (NOTE: This rap will not have musical accompaniment. Pinkie will be rapping acapella.) Listening to this jumble of words, Rainbow stands stunned.

Wanting to clear her head, she turns to walk away and runs right into Rarity who is in the strangest get-up Rainbow's ever seen. Rarity's heard that Rainbow is struggling with history and while little plays and silly raps are quaint, she knows the perfect learning tool for her friend.

DISSOLVE TO:

7.) INT. CAROUSEL BOUTIQUE – A LITTLE LATER

Rarity leads a frazzled Rainbow Dash into the boutique, which has pony mannequins all around the main floor in the various Wonderbolt costumes through the ages. Rarity notes that when she is trying to learn about history, it always helps her to relate it to the fashion of the time period. For instance, she is now sporting the rather unattractive and itchy original Wonderbolts' flying costume. Fortunately, through time, the Wonderbolts got more streamlined and found more breathable fabrics. Rainbow listens and observes, but then suddenly the figures come to life! They aren't mannequins at all! It's all her friends in costume and they start spewing out names and dates, which quickly get all mixed up in Rainbow's head.

Overwhelmed, Rainbow asks her friends to stop. This fashion show thing isn't working! APPLEJACK steps up agreeing that having a bunch of ponies on parade wouldn't help her either. When Rainbow asks if Applejack as a special study trick, AJ admits that she's got nothin'. Sure, she knows every little thing about the History of Apples (Gala Apples originated at the first Grand Galloping Gala, Pink Ladies were seeds surprisingly found on Pinkie Pie's family's rock farm, and the biggest apples ever seen were in Manehattan). But it took years and years for Applejack to learn all those apple facts. How much time does Rainbow have? Rainbow tells her that she has less than 12 hours. Applejack's face falls. “Oh, then you're up a creek.”

The friends all start launching in on how their method is the best. Rainbow just needs to try it again and it's sure to work. Soon Rainbow is overwhelmed by flashcards flying, Pinkie rapping, animals play-acting, costumes being paraded, and random apple names being thrown about.

Next the friends start competing, claiming that Rainbow should be able to learn through their method, talking about her as if she isn't even there.

Finally Rainbow can't stand it anymore. She's never going to pass this test! Forget it! She's giving up! Rainbow flies off, leaving her friends stunned.

ACT III

SC. 8.) EXT. PONYVILLE – LATER

A defeated Rainbow Dash flies through the sky as Twilight flies up to meet her. Twilight apologizes for all the ponies. They didn't mean to overwhelm her. Rainbow says it's okay. It's just too bad she's too dumb to learn anything. Twilight tells Rainbow that she's not dumb. She just learns differently. Rainbow scoffs. "If you mean 'differently' as in 'not at all' you're totally right."

Twilight starts launching in on how Rainbow is anything but dumb. She goes on and on as they fly. And as they do, Rainbow's ears are always moving and her eyes are darting about this way and that. Down on the ground she sees the CUTIE MARK CRUSADERS leaving SUGAR CUBE CORNER. She hears BIG MAC say, "Eeeyup!" to FILTHY RICH as he gives Filthy a bushel of apples. Twilight is still pontificating on how brilliant Rainbow is when suddenly Rainbow's eyes grow wide and she shoves Twilight away.

Twilight is shocked. Is her friend really upset enough to push her? But then Twilight sees that she almost flew right into an aerial moving van! Twilight is amazed. She was talking so much she didn't even notice the van. And Rainbow was paying attention to her the whole time. So how did she even notice it? Rainbow laughs. It's cause she's an experienced flier while Twilight's just a rookie. It may have seemed like she was looking at Twilight the whole time, but while she was paying attention to Twilight she was also scanning the skies and the ground for any problems. In order to stay safe in the skies, she has to hear and see everything down to the little details. For instance, she saw APPLE BLOOM, SWEETIE BELLE, and SCOOTALOO coming out of Sugar Cube Corner. And from the looks of it, they had carrot cupcakes with sprinkles. And Big Mac sold a huge order of apples to Filthy Rich that he's going to deliver later today. She always makes note of everything when she flies.

Suddenly Twilight's eyes light up and she abruptly tells Rainbow that she's gotta go. She flies off, leaving Rainbow alone. Wallowing in self-pity, Rainbow notes that she wouldn't want to hang out with a loser like her either.

SC. 9.) INT. GOLDEN OAK LIBRARY – A LITTLE LATER

Twilight has the friends gathered and she tells them that they have to help Rainbow Dash. The friends are all for it, but how? They've tried every way of studying: Twilight's way, Rarity's way..."Yes," says Twilight, "But we haven't tried Rainbow Dash's way." Pinkie perks up stating that she is intrigued.

SC. 10.) EXT. PONYVILLE – A LITTLE LATER

Rainbow Dash is up on a cloud moping when Twilight comes up and asks if she wants to go for another flight. Rainbow reluctantly gets off her cloud and starts flying with Twilight. As they fly, Rainbow is in terrible spirits. Didn't they just do this? Twilight notes that they did, but that she needs all the practice she can get. Rainbow grumbles that Twilight's sure to become a great flier in no time. After all, she's good at everything.

Desperate to keep the conversation going, Twilight asks Rainbow what's going on. "Oh nothing," claims the defeatist Rainbow, "Just my dreams getting crushed." As Rainbow's

ears and eyes move about during their flight, Twilight continues to keep up the small talk (as painful as it is) until finally they land. Beaming at Rainbow, Twilight asks her what she remembers about the flight. Rainbow sighs, not understanding why Twilight even cares. But then Rainbow starts spewing out correct names, dates, and facts of the History of the Wonderbolts! Rainbow Dash is stunned. How in Equestria did that happen?

Twilight explains that during their first flight, she discovered that thanks to Rainbow's keen observational skills, she catalogues everything that happens all around her without even thinking about it. So, she enlisted all her friends and ponies in Ponyville to help her make note of the History of the Wonderbolts!

SC. 11.) EXT. PONYVILLE – FLASHBACK

Flashing back to Twilight and Rainbow flying over town, all the friends and ponies held up images, facts, and dates. (NOTE: Instead of just seeing signs with words, we'll show either pictograms or the signs will be far enough away that the words are fuzzy.) Others said parts of history to each other so that Rainbow could hear the information as well. And Rarity even had Pegasi flying about wearing the costumes indicating which era they were from.

SC. 12.) EXT. PONYVILLE – REAL TIME

Surrounded by all her friends, Rainbow thanks them all for being so persistent and patient with her. Maybe they can help her some more with another round of studying!

SC. 13.) INT. GOLDEN OAK LIBRARY – THE NEXT DAY

Twilight writes her entry into the Journal of Two Sisters, noting that different ponies learn differently. In fact, while Rainbow finally learned the History of the Wonderbolts, it's Twilight herself that really learned something. While she is a sit and learn pony, she had to put aside her hard and fast rules of learning to discover that Rainbow is a fly and learn pony. And one way isn't better than another and having a different technique for learning certainly doesn't make you dumb. Everypony is unique and individual.

SC. 14.) EXT. CLOUDSDALE HALL – SAME DAY

As Twilight continues to speak about her lesson, Rainbow takes her test, clearly confident that she knows all the answers.

THE END