

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8

School Daze
Ep 801

Outline by: Michael Vogel and Nicole Dubuc

Distribution:

Production:
Devon Cody
Joanna Lewis
Kristine Songco
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:
Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:
Stephen Davis
Kathy Page
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Gabriel Monje
Daniel Barnes
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Graham Stephen
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Rachelle Little
Kristen Riley
Emily Thompson
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:
Jamie Cipolla
Yusun Hwang
Kevin Evans
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Kristen Riley
Katherine Padilla
Brian Chapman

Premise: August 12th, 2016
Outline: August 29th, 2016

SCHOOL DAZE

Premise by Michael Vogel and Nicole Dubuc

Logline: Twilight opens a School of Friendship to meet the growing needs of the larger world we saw in the feature. Unfortunately, Twilight's vision for the school might not be what everypony wants.

TEASER**1) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTE – DAY**

Twilight Sparkle, Rainbow Dash, Pinkie Pie, Applejack, Fluttershy, Rarity and Spike have returned to Ponyville from their epic adventure. Like a bunch of kids who just got back from summer vacation, they are all trying to tell Starlight Glimmer EVERYTHING that happened at once. "There were these pirates in an airship! They thought they were more awesome than me!" "I made seashell necklaces with a seapony princess!" "That darn cat, well, he started out pretty awful but in the end he was quite heroic and dashing!" "Not THAT dashing" etc. etc. (allowing us to get a brief, fun re-cap of the movie). Twilight is a bit more thoughtful as she tells Starlight about the journey, revealing that Tempest decided to go back out into the big wide world beyond Equestria to tell others about The Storm King's demise and the things she's learned about friendship. "The big wide world beyond?" Starlight asks. "Yes, there is so much beyond Equestria that we had no idea about!" Starlight: "Oh. THAT explains it." Twilight: "Explains what?"

Starlight opens the throne room door and shows them that the map has expanded. It's MUCH bigger than it was before and shows all the places beyond Equestria the ponies visited!

END TEASER**MAIN TITLES****ACT ONE****2) INT. TWILIGHT'S CASTLE - RESUME**

The ponies all examine the new map, calling out the locations they recognize from their journey. Pinkie wonders how far they would need to travel to get the map to take up the whole room. Applejack asks if a bigger map means more friendship quests? Twilights admits she doesn't know what it means, but if their journey taught them anything, it's that there are LOTS of creatures out there who don't know anything about friendship. Rainbow Dash: "No problem! We'll go out there and show them!" Fluttershy shudders. She is fine with no more epic adventures. Twilight worries that they can't be everywhere all the time, the world is just too big. They are going to need help, lots of help. They need to teach others about friendship. Rarity: "Yes darling but WHERE does one go to learn about friendship?" Twilight gets excited: "Here! We can start a School! A SCHOOL OF FRIENDSHIP! We can teach everypony what we've learned! We can show everypony how to make the world better!" Spike points out that none of them know anything about starting a school. Twilight grins, she knows JUST who to ask about THAT!

Written by: Michael Vogel and Nicole Dubuc

3) INT. CELESTIA'S SCHOOL OF MAGIC – LATER

Twilight, Spike and Princess Celestia tour Celestia's School of Magic. Celestia thinks a School of Friendship is a wonderful idea and is happy to help in any way she can. As they tour they observe unicorns in classrooms levitating objects, studying spells and practicing potions. Taking notes on five different floating notepads, Twilight asks questions faster than Celestia can answer. Twilight admits the idea of a school is a bit daunting. Celestia points out that Twilight was Celestia's star pupil. She should have a pretty good grasp on how a school works. Twilight counters that being a STUDENT is much different than RUNNING a school and she wants to make sure she does it right. Twilight: "If only there were some kind of rulebook to follow!" Celestia: "Actually, there is. The EEA has very specific guidelines on how to run a school." Twilight is thrown off. Why hasn't she ever heard of the EEA? Celestia: "Of course you've never heard of it, you've never run a school before! The Equestrian Education Association is a board of learned ponies that decide on and enforce the guidelines for running a school. Whether it's unicorns studying magic, pegasi learning weather or a place to learn friendship, they make sure all schools are held to the same high standard. You'll need to present your plan to them before you can move forward." Twilight looks nervous but Celestia just smiles: "Don't worry. I'm sure the EEA has never met a pony as organized as Twilight Sparkle."

Twilight gets a determined look on her face: "Ok, Spike! Looks like we have a presentation to prepare for!" Spike: "Great! After what we've been through, how hard can a school presentation be?"

4) EXT. EEA HEADQUARTERS – LATER

Spike falls to the ground, exhausted, beaten: "No more. Please! I can't." Twilight rolls her eyes as she studies her very detailed presentation: "Oh calm down, it wasn't THAT bad. A school is a big undertaking and I want to make sure we do everything right!" On the steps of the pretentious EEA building, Spike and Twilight look up at the towering carved archway in. Spike gulps: "Wow, these ponies mean business." Twilight and Spike head into the building.

5) INT. EEA MEETING ROOM – CONTINUOUS

Inside, Twilight and Spike stand in a small, lit area of an otherwise dark and imposing room. Above them several ponies look down on them from a large seating area (think the ministry of magic in Harry Potter). [Production Note: The ponies will all be in shadows using minimal animation, only the main EEA pony will need to be fully seen].

An officious looking unicorn, NEIGHSAY, steps forward and looks down at Twilight (dismissing Spike). "Princess Twilight Sparkle, a pleasure. All of Equestria owes you a great debt." Twilight: "Well, thank you—" The unicorn interrupts: "But we will not let that influence our decision. Shaping the minds of Equestria's youth is a responsibility we take very seriously. And Princess or not, we expect you to follow our guidelines to the letter."

Twilight agrees as she nods to Spike who struggles to hand out the very large school packets to all the ponies present. Twilight explains that her adventures beyond Equestria have

shown her first hoof that there are threats out there greater than anything they've ever imagined. If they are going to keep Equestria safe, if they are going to create a better, friendlier tomorrow, they need to teach the magic of friendship far and wide. She has studied the EEA guidelines and thinks they will find she has structured a curriculum that meets their high standards. She just needs their approval.

Neighsay enthusiastically agrees. He was at the Battle for Canterlot and saw firsthand the threats that are out there. EVERYpony should understand what is at stake and EVERYpony should be ready to protect their home and their way of life. Twilight is thrilled to have such a positive reaction to her school. Neighsay says that as long as her work is in order (Spike: "Oh it's in order.") they should have no problem! Twilight says she is thrilled and hopes that once the school is up and running they will come visit and on FRIENDS AND FAMILY DAY to see how things are progressing! As the EEA unicorn stamps the words APPROVED on Twilight's packet we transition to...

6) EXT. / INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL– WEEKS LATER

A picturesque morning in Ponyville. We soar over Twilight's castle to see a beautiful lake behind it. A bridge over the lake connects the castle to TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL OF MAGIC on the other side. It's beautiful, impressive and scholarly looking, just like a school designed by Twilight should be. The highest tower GLEAMS in the sun.

Inside, Starlight, Spike and the Mane 5 are helping to get everything ready for opening day. They are all anticipating a typical Twilight panic attack. After all, the school is very important to her and you know how she can get. But surprising everypony, Twilight trots in, sipping tea, with the giant EEA guideline tome floating behind her. She seems... calm!?

Everypony approaches her warily, is she ready? Twilight laughs and says she knows she would usually be freaking out, but she has the EEA guidelines to follow and she really feels like she's got this. Running a school just feels... right somehow.

Twilight explains to each of the ponies what they're supposed to do. Applejack: "I know we've been over this a dozen times but... you SURE you want us to be teachers? In classrooms?" Rainbow Dash BEGS Twilight not to turn her into an egghead! But Twilight insists: "The manner in which the EEA want curriculum taught is VERY clear. We have a HUGE responsibility and I need you all to do this by the book." Pinkie leaps on the floating tome: "This book?" Twilight: "Yes. Which means NO party cannon. DEFINITELY not in the lesson plan!" A disappointed Pinkie shoves the cannon in a nearby closet. Twilight addresses her friends: "I know this isn't some big adventure where we're fighting the forces of evil but it could be the most important thing we ever do!" With that, the school bell magically rings. Voices can be heard outside. Pinkie vibrates with excitement: "They're HEEEEEEEEEEERE!!!! New ponies!!" Twilight grins as the door opens: "Not JUST ponies..."

The doors to the school swing wide. There are several ponies, but there's also a griffon, a yak, a dragon, a changeling and a hippogriff!!!!

END ACT ONE

Written by: Michael Vogel and Nicole Dubuc

ACT TWO

7) INT. TWILIGHT'S SCHOOL – RESUME

Twilight welcomes all the ponies as well as the new creatures as she explains to her friends that there are plenty of other creatures living in Equestria. It's not JUST ponies.

"Everypony... I mean... everyONE should be able to learn about the magic of friendship."

(Gasp! No pony has ever used that pronoun before!) So she reached out to their friends and asked for the best of the best to join for the first term of the school.

We meet each of the new students as well as the delegate/representative that is delivering them. GRAMPA GUFF arrives from Griffonstone with GALLUS, a "too cool for school" griffon who's just as sarcastic as Gilda was in her prime. PRINCE RUTHERFORD proudly (and loudly) introduces YANA YAK, a stocky, slightly clumsy female yak who is overenthusiastic about ALL things Yakyakistan (obviously) and happy to tell EVERYone about it. EMBER arrives with BLAZE, a proud, arrogant and elegant female dragon who won the right to attend the school in a dragon competition. It's clear that she feels anything that doesn't have claws, scales, and fire-breath is a bit beneath her. THORAX encourages GOSSAMER to say hello. She's a shy female Changeling who is awestruck meeting the ponies (after all they did to help the Changeling kingdom) and desperate to make a good impression. GENERAL SEASPRAY, advisor to the royal family of Mt. Aris, offers Novo and Skystar's regards as he introduces Skystar's cousin SILVERSTAR, an enthusiastic (and somewhat naïve) male hippogriff who spent most of his life underwater as a seapony and is THRILLED to see things that NO hippogriff has EVER seen before! Twilight reminds all the delegates to come back on Friends and Family Day in a few weeks to see the progress the school is making!

The pony students watch all of the new students with interest. Two new students, SANDALWOOD and ROSELUCK don't quite know what to make of them.

The Mane 5 and Starlight watch as the students settle in. Rarity: "You certainly weren't joking when you said there was never a school like this before in all of Equestria." Twilight is beaming with pride: "Rest up everypony! Tomorrow you start your new life as teachers of friendship!!!" The Mane 5 look at each other with less than confident expressions.

8) INT. SCHOOL – THE NEXT SEVERAL DAYS

In a montage set to song, we see how the first few weeks of school go for the students and teachers. Each of the ponies teaches a class in their respective elements: Honesty, Loyalty, Laughter, Generosity and Kindness. They try hard to do it "by the book" but when discussing their element they can't help themselves, they get carried away. (Rainbow Dash shows loyalty by creating dangerous stunts in the hallway, Fluttershy takes them on a field trip to the forest, etc). The students all begin to get into it, but each time Twilight pops her head in and reminds them things need to be done "by the book", forcing them back into explaining things on a chalkboard rather than showing by example. The students clearly don't respond to this strict way of teaching. They get bored and lose focus. Meanwhile, the Mane 5 struggle with teaching rather than showing, growing more and more frustrated.

9) INT. PINKIE'S CLASSROOM – A FEW WEEKS LATER

Song ends several weeks into the semester. The students all sit in various degrees of boredom as their teacher drones on like Ben Stein in *Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (Bueller?....Bueller?). Reveal that it is Pinkie Pie, hair in flat Pinkamena style as she drones on about the structure of a joke (there's a set-up, there's a punchline. If the punchline has a greater angle than the set-up the joke is successful...). It's unclear who is more miserable here, student or teacher. As the bell rings, Pinkie reminds the students to get excited (in the least-excited voice ever) because Friends and Family Day is tomorrow!

10) INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

In the corridor after class the students all struggle with their expectations of the school vs. the reality. Gallus is the most vocal about how disappointing the teachers are. Sandalwood and Roseluck defend the Mane 6. After all they just saved Equestria from The Storm King! Blaze asks if they did it by boring The Storm King to death. Yana says they aren't as impressive as yaks, who are OBVIOUSLY the best. Blaze argues that dragons, who have claws, wings and breathe fire, MIGHT have an edge up. Gossamer agrees classes are a bit dull, but thinks the ponies deserve a chance. After all, they taught the changelings how to love. Gallus rolls his eyes: "Ok we GET it! Changelings LOVE love. Seriously, is that ALL you talk about?" Silverstar is confused. Isn't this what all classes above sea level are supposed to be like? Everyone rolls their eyes. Tensions continue to rise and it looks like things might escalate to an actual fight until magic and a lasso pull the students apart. Applejack and Starlight break things up. Applejack: "Are y'all fighting? In a school of Friendship? Break it up and go cool off." They watch with concern as the creatures all head off in different directions. Starlight: "We need to talk to Twilight. Maybe this school wasn't such a good idea after all."

END ACT TWO**ACT THREE****11) INT. SCHOOL AUDITORIUM – THE NEXT DAY**

Twilight takes a deep breath, calming herself as she addresses the students (and faculty) in the auditorium. She says she realizes that things may have gotten off to a rocky start, but understanding the true magic of friendship takes time. If EVERY member of the school (she stresses this as she looks at her friends) will just give the curriculum and this new way of teaching friendship a chance she is sure that after a few little bumps in the road everything will be perfect!

Twilight continues, saying that today is a big day. With Friends and Family Day finally here, today is a great opportunity for everypony at the school to put their best hooves forward. Gallus and Blaze look at each other's clawed hands. Gallus whispers: "EveryPONY? Hooves? Maybe this school isn't meant for creatures with claws?" Applejack shushes them. Twilight continues: "After school we will all meet by the lake for the Friends and Family Day picnic. It's a chance to share what you've learned so far. Now, head to class and have a great day learning about friendship!"

12) INT. SCHOOL CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

The students all head to class but Gallus and Blaze head in the opposite direction. Silverstar innocently points out they are going the wrong way. They reply that they're going the right way... AWAY from those boring classes. Gossamer and Yana are shocked. They're SKIPPING?! Sandalwood and Roseluck overhear, and Gallus asks if they're gonna rat them out. The ponies exchange a look. Sandalwood: "Actually, can we come too? We can't handle another loyalty lesson." As they're all deciding what to do, they hear Fluttershy coming down the hall. They all panic. But Gossamer quickly transforms into Rarity. Fluttershy sees them all and asks what they're doing. In an over the top (but oddly accurate) impersonation, Gossamer/Rarity says she's taking the students out to.... study the art deco influence of the school grounds. Fluttershy thinks that sounds fun and asks to join. Rarity says no... there's a mouse in desperate need of her help in the west wing! Fluttershy rushes off. The other students are all VERY impressed. Yana: "So what ARE we gonna do?" Gallus grins: "I dunno, maybe actually have FUN for once around here?"

13) INT. TWILIGHT'S OFFICE – CONTINUOUS

Twilight and Starlight enter her office. Twilight says she thinks that went well. "What went well?" Twilight and Starlight are surprised to find Neighsay there! He has arrived early to take a look at the classes prior to the Friends and Family event. Twilight is a little thrown off by the early arrival but says she would love to show him all that they've accomplished. They can start by sitting in on Rainbow Dash's loyalty lesson!

14) INT. SCHOOL GROUNDS - CONTINUOUS

The students all relax under the shade of some trees by the lake. For the first time since they arrived they actually get to just... hang out. Yana and Blaze share stories about their homelands with Roseluck and ask her to judge which SHE thinks is better. Gallus tells Gossamer that she's pretty funny with her impressions (she is mortified that she made fun of someone but also clearly enjoys doing impressions). Silverstar asks Sandalwood a thousand questions about life on land. Sandalwood keeps making things up but in a good-natured way. Yana announces that since Blaze, Gossamer, Gallus and Silverstar can all fly they must race! Winner gets a tour of Yakyakistan!

15) INT. OUTSIDE RAINBOW DASH'S CLASS – CONTINUOUS

Twilight explains the school's progress to Neighsay as they walk up to Rainbow Dash's class. Rainbow Dash comes flying out in a panic. Twilight glances past her and sees the empty classroom. Her eye starts to twitch as she asks Rainbow Dash what's going on and the EEA rep is HERE and would like to see a class in progress. Rainbow Dash covers and says that she sent the students out for a VERY important loyalty lesson and was just going to find them. She will bring them right back. Neighsay says that's silly, he'll just tag along with her. They all head off in a very roundabout way, Twilight's old anxiety creeping back in.

16) EXT. SCHOOL GROUNDS/SCHOOL HALLS – CONTINUOUS

INTERCUT Twilight vamping/explaining the elements and how they are being taught with the students outside playing, actually ILLUSTRATING Loyalty, Generosity, Kindness, Laughter, and Honesty. The flying race has taken them closer to the setup for the picnic. Blaze makes an offhand comment about ponies. Roseluck grabs a cupcake and playfully

throws it at Blaze. They are all shocked until Blaze starts laughing. They all start throwing food at each other. Silverstar asks what's going on, they explain it's a food fight. Silverstar gets an idea and flies off.

17) INT. EMPTY CLASSROOM – CONTINUOUS

The rest of the ponies join in and continue to cover for the missing students. Oh those students, so excited to get to see their friends from different lands (Neighsay: "different lands?") They must all be out at the mixer already!

18) EXT. FRIENDS AND FAMILY STAGE – CONTINUOUS

Princess Celestia and Princess Luna cross the bridge towards the school with the various delegates, agreeing that they are curious and excited to see what Twilight's students have been up to.

19) INT. SCHOOL GROUNDS – CONTINUOUS

Overhead, Gossamer and Gallus sky-race each other. Gossamer grows bigger wings. Gallus is impressed and asks how big she can make herself. Gossamer grins and starts to transform into something... huge.

Silverstar drags Pinkie's party cannon towards his friends. It's FILLED with cupcakes and other food he found. He aims it at Gallus and Gossamer. At the same time Twilight, the Mane 5 and Neighsay walk out of the school just as Celestia, Luna and the delegates come over the bridge.

General Seaspray screams as he points up at the sky! A fearsome monster with fiery eyes and sharp fangs swoops over them. Before anyone can say anything there's a loud explosion!

The princesses, the delegates, the Mane 6 and the EEA pony are covered in cupcake, frosting and other unidentified food. Blinded by sugar, Gallus crashes into the highest tower, which slowly topples with a CRASH. The fearsome monster looks at the chaos and says in a sweet voice: "Oh goodness no!" as it transforms back into Gossamer. Silverstar flies over, confused: "I thought food fights were funny, no?"

The delegates are furious as the other students join them. What is the meaning of this? Is this picnic some kind of joke? Twilight rushes forward and apologizes, it was just a misunderstanding, just students getting carried away! Neighsay fumes in disbelief: "Students? THESE are your students? But... they aren't ponies!" Twilight says she knows that, her school is open to all creatures. Neighsay blusters: "But, you said you were opening this school to protect Equestria! That we needed to be prepared to protect ourselves from..." He glances at Thorax and Gossamer, "Dangerous creatures that don't have ponies' best interests at heart."

Twilight says the EEA must have misunderstood. Her School of Friendship is there to inspire others, show them a better path. But Neighsay insists that to be accredited it should be for ponies only. This enrages Prince Rutherford, who takes it as an insult. Ember doesn't understand why Twilight won't stand up for the dragons. Grampa Guff thinks everyone is

being dumb. General Seaspray says things seem much simpler back at Mt. Aris, and a sad Thorax tells Twilight he appreciates her support but knows it will take time for everyone to trust the changelings.

Twilight tries her best to come up with a way to calm everyone down but Neighsay pony is adamant. He uses his horn to affix a magical seal on the school's main doors, binding them closed by order of the EEA. The delegates get the hint – since their kind clearly isn't wanted, they'll just take their students and go home.

Twilight watches as everyone leaves... the picnic is ruined and her school is...UNACCREDITED! Off of her lost, completely destroyed expression we...

END PART ONE