

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 8
Marks for Effort
Ep 812
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MARKS FOR EFFORT

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Logline: The CMCs try to convince Twilight to let them into her School of Friendship, even though it's clear they've already mastered the curriculum.

APPLE BLOOM, SWEETIE BELLE, and SCOOTALOO peek in the window at Twilight Sparkle's School of Friendship. They've heard stories about how amazing the place is, and all the awesome stuff the students get to do. Sure enough, inside, the class laughs and has a blast as they play an active friendship game. The CMCs are impressed – their school is fun, but it's nothing like THIS. That gives Scootaloo an idea – why don't they enroll in Twilight's school instead! The other CMCs are on board – what could be better than learning friendship with your best buds?!

But when they show up for school the next day, TWILIGHT SPARKLE has bad news for the trio – the CMCs can't go to her school. "But why not?" Sweetie Belle wants to know. "Yeah! We'll study really hard!" Apple Bloom promises. "You said this school was for EVERYcreature!" Scootaloo protests. Twilight nods – she did, but the thing is, the CMCs don't need friendship lessons. With all the help they've given other ponies in finding their purpose, they're honorary graduates of her school already. They don't need to be there... But they DO need Cheerilee's classes. The CMCs aren't thrilled with that news, and they won't take no for an answer. "We've just got to show Twilight that we still have lots to learn," Scootaloo asserts.

So the CMCs comically attempt to show Starlight and the Mane 6 that they've forgotten everything there is to know about friendship. Staging an over-the-top "fight," the CMCs almost have FLUTTERSHY and PINKIE PIE convinced... Until the trio realizes their plan to make it into the school is working, and they high five each other for their success. Apple Bloom slacks on her work to try to convince Applejack to send her to school ("See? I have so much to learn about friendship!"), Sweetie Belle nags RARITY, and Scootaloo sneaks into RAINBOW DASH's class. But the ponies aren't budging, and the CMCs are politely escorted out... Back to Cheerilee's class.

Bummed, the CMCs head to their clubhouse after school to try to brainstorm a work around for the impossible problem. But when they hear sniffing outside, they go to investigate, only to find a sad, adorable PEGASUS (COZY GLOW – NAME TBD) crying. When they ask what's wrong, Cozy Glow explains that she's from another town – she just moved here to go to Twilight Sparkle's School of Friendship. But she's having a lot of trouble with the lessons. The CMCs have the same idea at once. They offer to help Cozy Glow study – it'll be almost as good as actually being IN the friendship school.

The CMCs pitch in to help Cozy Glow with her homework and lessons. And she's really starting to learn – just in time for the big test in Professor Twilight's class. But on the day of the exam, Cozy Glow blows the test! She admits to Twilight that she worked with tutors to study, and Twilight demands to see these tutors – finding the CMCs. Twilight can't believe it! Could they really have mis-taught Cozy to try to convince Twilight to let

them into the school? That's not friendship – that's cruelty. The CMCs protest – they didn't do that! They taught Cozy everything they knew! Honest! But the fact remains that they tutored Cozy, and she failed. Twilight is very disappointed, and the CMCs are crushed.

Seeing their distress, Cozy comes clean to guidance counselor STARLIGHT – she threw the test on purpose, because she wanted to help her new friends achieve their dream. She hoped that if Twilight thought her tutors were bad, they'd get to fulfill their dream of going to the School of Friendship. "I guess I still do need to learn a lot about how friendship works," Cozy admits. Starlight smiles – actually, it's the opposite. Although it wasn't the best way to go about things, Cozy's heart was in the right place to want to help her friends. But the reason the CMCs don't go to Twilight's school is that they'd make better teachers than students. "So you DO have a place for them here!" Cozy says. Starlight looks thoughtful...

The CMCs are nervous to be summoned to the School of Friendship by Starlight and the Mane 6, even though they didn't do anything wrong. But they're happily surprised when Twilight Sparkle presents the CMCs with honorary diplomas and asks them to be official friendship tutors. The CMCs are thrilled to have found their place within Twilight's School after all, and they can't wait to get started right away! "How about after you finish class with Miss Cheerilee," Twilight adds with a smile.