

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9
Growing Up Is Hard to Do
EP 922
Beatsheet by: Josh Haber

Distribution:

Production:

Devon Cody
Jim Miller
Denny Lu
Mike Myhre
Zoe Borroz
Josh Haber
Jada McDermott

Discovery Family:

Linda Shima Tsuno
Beth Mohammed

Hasbro Studios:

Stephen Davis
Meghan McCarthy
Eliza Hart
Leslie Wishnevski
Finn Arnesen
Nina Scales
Tyla Bucher
Loretta Masters
Narae Song
Bill Cheungcp
Molly Shaffer
Emily Thompson
Kevin Farrell
Lauren Devereux
Michael Kelly

Hasbro Brand:

Grace Morgan
Julie Sanfilippo
Matt Riordan
Andrea Ehret
Samantha Lomow
Gretchen Forrest
Brian Chapman

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Growing Up Is Hard to Do

Beatsheet

TEASER

- Open on the CMCs going over a final check list. They are headed to a 4H-style country fair in Appleoosa. Scootaloo has the snacks – CHECK! Apple Bloom has their train tickets – CHECK! Sweetie Belle has the itinerary for their day worked out to the minute – CHECK! Weeks of planning has all come down to this. All they need is for their chaperone to show up. Apple Bloom asks who it is. Sweetie Belle is confused. She thought it was Applejack. Apple Bloom thought it was Rainbow Dash. Scootaloo thought it was Rarity. Oh no. In all their planning they forgot to figure out who was taking them and they are supposed to be leaving now! END TEASER.

ACT ONE

- RESUME on the CMCs trying to figure out a solution. How could they have overlooked this? The fair is today. They are all ready. They'll just have to find somepony to take them on short notice. CUT TO:
 - o RARITY – who's busy with a new design, fussing over the tiniest adjustment as she explains that she couldn't possibly go to Appleoosa today. She has far too much work to do. Off the CMCs disappointed... CUT TO:
 - o RAINBOW DASH – who's working on the ins and outs of a new Wonderbolt routine in a field just outside of Ponyville. She can't take them either. Off the CMCs frustrated... CUT TO:
 - o APPLEJACK – who has to take a shipment of apples to market, since Granny and Big Mac are under the weather. PAN TO the CMCs as she asks what it is they want. Crestfallen, they tell her never mind. She obviously can't help... CUT TO:
- The CMCs walk with Fluttershy toward Twilight's Castle. They try to get her to take them. After all, there will be all kinds of creatures at the fair. Prize creatures, in fact. How can FS say no? Normally FS would be all for it, but TS has asked for her help. As they walk in we see TS has asked for help from all of her friends. TS explains that Starswirl has entrusted her with a flower whose magical properties he needs to discern as soon as possible. The CMCs look out at the gathering. "So I guess TS isn't available either."
- As the M6 brainstorm ideas about what Starswirl's flower might do, the CMCs keep interrupting: How come they all dropped everything to help Twilight, but not them? Frustrated that the grownup ponies are all so busy, they decide to go alone. Immediately the older ponies stop what they are doing and address the foals. The trio is far too young to go alone. As young ponies they aren't experienced enough to navigate a trip like that. They could: 1. Get distracted and end up in the wrong place; 2. Panic and get lost and not be able to find their way back; 3. Be stubborn and not admit when they're over their heads and end up in danger with no grown pony to help! Having sufficiently explained the situation, the M6 walk out to help TS do some research in the Library.

- Despondent the CMCs stay behind, crushed that no pony will take them to the fair OR let them go alone. They wish they were all grown ponies. That way they could make their own decisions and no pony could tell them what to do. With a FLASH they are suddenly transformed into grownups. Apparently the magical flower grants wishes. Excited they all look at each other. “Do you know what this mean? WE CAN GO TO THE FAIR!”
- They sing a song: BEING BIG IS ALL IT TAKES! Now that they can do what they want they rush to the train station and board the train. It’s all so exciting. The train leaves and a pony rushes up, bummed she just missed the train to the Hayseed Swamps. Whoops. Looks like the CMCs were so busy singing, they got on the wrong train. END ACT ONE.

ACT TWO

- Come back to them exiting the train and as it pulls away, they look around confused. This doesn’t look like Appleoosa. The STATION AGENT tells them it isn’t. They got on the wrong train. The girls just thought trains took you where you wanted to go. The Station Agent looks at them. “You three don’t travel much do ya?” He points them to a path through the swamp that leads to Appleoosa. The directions are a bit complicated but nothing three grown up ponies can’t handle. The girls confer. Sweetie Belle wonders if they shouldn’t wait for the next train since they already ended up in the wrong place which is exactly what their sisters said might happen. Apple Bloom brushes it off, they’ll miss the fair if they wait around. She’s traveled through swamps before. This path might be different, but they can find their way. They’re grown up ponies now and being big is all it takes. The others agree and they set off.
- They wonder along the path trying to follow the directions, but there are a lot of twists and turns and soon they feel like they are walking in circles. Starting to panic, they rush along the path, freaked out by various swamp creatures, including a huge, winged, fire breathing one that they hide from. When the coast is clear, they come out and start to think about heading back to the station, but at this point they don’t think they could find it. It looks like they got lost—just like their sisters said they would! Maybe being big isn’t all it takes.
- Through the trees they hear arguing and rush out to find two YOUNG PONIES walking down the path. BISCUIT and SPUR are from the area and travel to Appleoosa all the time. They know the way very well, but understand how ponies who don’t could get lost. The girls are lucky to have found them. Recovered from their freakout, the CMCs decide it isn’t luck. When you’re big things just work out. They ask what Biscuit and Spur were arguing about. Biscuit wants to take their cute pet BLOOFER to the fair, but Spur doesn’t want to and their Uncle said that Spur was in charge of their pet—since he’s the one who found him and raised him. The girls really want to go to the fair and need Biscuit and Spur to lead them. They decide that Spur should share Bloofer with Biscuit. They can’t think of anything that could go wrong and even if it did, they can handle it since they are big and that’s all it takes.

Besides, they tell Spur that sharing is what a good friend would do, and as growups they know what's best.

- The young ponies lead them to the fair where the girls are super excited. In quick beats we see them running around enjoying themselves.
- Biscuit loves showing Bloofer off and is going to enter him into the animal show. Spur thinks that's a horrible idea, but the girls remind him that he needs to share and that they know best. Frustrated, Spur heads home.
- At the show, the crowd proves too much for Bloofer and he transforms into a giant scary beast that breaths fire. As the panicked fair goers run, the CMCs think that maybe they didn't know best after all. They should have listened to Spur. END ACT TWO

ACT THREE

- The girls decide to try to wrangle the fire breathing Bloofer monster, since that's what grownup ponies would do, but soon discover they are in way over their heads – just like their sisters said they would be! Luckily there's no pony around to say I told you so, but unfortunately, there's nopony around to save them either!
- Twilight and the M6 show up at the fair looking for the CMCs, since they'd gone missing after right being told they couldn't go. They find the girls who explain what happened. They really thought they could handle the trip, since they were transformed into grownups, but it sure looks like they were wrong. The M6 decide to talk about it later and dive in to fix the issue. Unfortunately, Fluttershy realizes the only thing that can calm Bloofer down is the pony who raised him.
- Biscuit leads the CMCs to Spur and they all apologize for not listening to him. The CMCs might look grownups, but they didn't know best. They let what they wanted get in the way and they gave some bad advice without knowing the whole picture. Now Bloofer is wrecking everything and Spur is the only one who can stop it. Spur accepts their apology and rushes back to help.
- Meanwhile, the M6 continue to do damage control until Spur arrives and, just as Fluttershy predicted, is able to return Bloofer to his calm, cute self.
- On the train platform headed home, the CMCs apologize for all the trouble they caused. Twilight managed to figure out what the magical properties of the flower was in her research. Unfortunately the CMCs had already used it up. Using what she learned, TS magics them back to normal – to the shock of Biscuit and Spur who point out that the CMCs made terrible grownups. The CMCs agree. They thought being big was all it would take to do the things they wanted, but they were proved wrong at every turn. Now they understand you need all the learning that goes along with growing up and that's really what it takes. THE END