

MY LITTLE PONY
Season 9

Common Ground
EP 906

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COMMON GROUND

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Logline: *Quibblepants returns! He's found his special somepony, but her daughter is a total jock and he's at a loss at how to bond with her. Luckily Rainbow Dash offers to teach him all about "the sports."*

It's the opening of the Buckball Hall of Fame and Pinkie and Fluttershy are there to play in the tournament that coincides with the event. While they play, Rainbow Dash is the first pony in line as the doors to the Hall open. Normally Dash would skip the sports museum and just cheer her friends on at the tourney, but Applejack couldn't come (because apple harvesting season) and Dash promised to tell her all about it. Dash diligently (but speedily) checks out each and every exhibit so she can tell Applejack about them when a voice comes from off-screen. "Buckball is way too sweaty for my taste, but there are some interesting statistics to study." Reveal QUIBBLEPANTS. Uh-oh. Looks like he and Dash have found something else to bicker about!

When Dash confronts Quibble about the awesomeness of Buckball. Quibble introduces his special somepony, Clear Sky, and her daughter, Wind Sprint. Quibble explains that Wind Sprint is actually a big Buckball fan and he was just pointing out what a great sport it is because of all the stats—it's practically an RPG! Wind Sprint just rolls her eyes and walks off. Quibble explains the situation to Dash: He thinks Clear Sky and her daughter are great and he wants them to be a family, but Wind Sprint is really into sports and he just doesn't know how to relate to her. He's tried everything—even reading Daring Do to her ("I mean, who's more sporty than her?!"), but nothing works. He desperately wants them to bond but he just can't figure out how. Seeing how important this is to Quibble, Dash puts his mind at ease—if there's one thing she can definitely help him with it's figuring out how to turn him into the sportiest pony ever! Quibble isn't sure that's a good idea, but Dash tells him not to worry about it. She's got him covered!

She invites Quibble and Wind Sprint to pal around with the best Buckball players in Equestria, Pinkie and Fluttershy. But when Quibble's sportiness by association fails to impress the young filly, Dash enters him into the Buckball tournament, confident that she and her friends can make him look good. Unfortunately she doesn't realize just how uncoordinated Quibble is and her efforts do more harm than good. Committed to helping her friend, Dash goes through a series of sporty activities, trying to find one that Quibble can excel at, but each one is worse than the last. Finally things go so awry that even Clear Sky starts to have doubts. As much as she likes Quibble, her first priority is her daughter and if she and Quibble can't find common ground, maybe her own relationship with him just isn't meant to be.

Worried she's done a better job of driving Wind Sprint and Quibble apart than bringing them together, Dash appeals to the filly herself. Sure Quibble isn't the sportiest pony around, but he and Clear Sky really seem to like each other. Maybe Wind Sprint could give him a chance? Meanwhile, a distraught Quibble decides to give up. Clear Sky and Wind Sprint deserve to have a pony they both like in their lives. But when Wind Sprint

extends an olive branch by inviting him to watch the final game of the tournament together—they actually start to bond. Maybe Quibble can't play, but he knows more about the game than any pony she's ever met (think Moneyball). Before long, Quibble and Wind Sprint are bonding over their collections of Buckball trading cards and Dash is relishing in her accomplishment. Of course Quibble just needed to be himself instead of trying to be all sporty. Who in the world gave him that idea?!