Chocolate cake

Children use the controls on a microwave and the thermostat on a fridge when they make a chocolate cake.

Early technologists learn that they need to press buttons, touch pads or turn dials to make a microwave work. **More confident technologists** understand that they can control the timer on the microwave and thermostat on the fridge.

What you need

Microwave; refrigerator; 450g cooking chocolate; 225g oat biscuits; 100g butter; baking tin; bowl; wooden spoon; rolling pin; recipe from photocopiable page 14.

What to do

● This activity could be included in a theme about how things change. Show the children the bar of chocolate, biscuits and butter. Challenge them to tell you how all the ingredients can be mixed together to make a cake. Ask: *How can we change the ingredients so that they will mix together? What happens to chocolate when it gets warm? How can we make it melt quickly?*

● Explain that one way to melt the chocolate and butter is by using a microwave. Put the chocolate in the bowl and then put it in the microwave and close the door. Ask: *Will it melt now? What must we do next?* Show the children how to press the controls to make the microwave work. Remind them that they should not touch a microwave without an adult helping them and that food and containers are hot when they have been microwaved.

● Show the children the recipe on photocopiable page 14 and follow it together. Discuss why it is important to follow the instructions in the right order. Ask: *What are the arrows pointing to? When the mixture is in the tin, is it ready to eat? How can we make the mixture set? Does it need to be warmer or colder to set? Where can we put it to make it colder?*

● As you put the mixture in the fridge, ask the children how they know the fridge is switched on. Ascertain that

Learning objectives
Stepping Stones
● Know how to operate simple equipment. **(KUW)**
● Perform simple functions on ICT apparatus. **(KUW)**
Early Learning Goal
● Find out about and identify the uses of everyday technology and use information and communication technology to support their learning. **(KUW)**