

Baking a Cake – Thinking Moves – ‘Ahead’

“Predicting, preparing, intending and hoping are all ways of bringing the future into the present.”

- Quote from *Thinking Moves A-Z, Metacognition Made Simple* by Roger Sutcliffe, Tom Bigglestone and Jason Buckley

Thinking ahead is an important P4C skill. In being able to think ahead into different possible futures and being able to predict cause and effect, children are then able to fully explore concepts and ‘what if’ s.

Q uestion	<p><i>Can we decide what we need to do next as we bake a cake?</i></p> <p>Remind the children of the 4Cs as you begin. Also tell them that today you are working on the skill of looking ‘Ahead’</p> <p>Caring – Good listening. Telling children they had a good idea.</p> <p>Critical – using their own experiences. Thinking about what they know.</p> <p>Creative – Thinking of new ways to look at things</p> <p>Collaborative – Building on someone else’s ideas – particularly another child’s ideas.</p>
U nderstanding	<p>Explain that to bake a cake we need to get the right ingredients and follow the recipe correctly. We are going to bake a cake taking it step by step and try to decide what step to take next and predict what would happen if we made changes in the recipe.</p> <p><i>(Note: You can also highlight that here you are using the thinking move of Ordering)</i></p>
E xploring	<p>We will look at the ingredients, the equipment and talk through the recipe.</p> <p><i>(Note: Here you are using the thinking move of Dividing)</i></p>
S haring	<p>Start to follow the recipe. Between each step ask the children what we should do next. Throughout the process ask ‘what if’ s and sabotage the recipe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What if I use a teaspoon to put the flour in bit by bit? (it would take longer) - What if I left egg shell in the mixture? - What if I didn’t add water/milk? - What if I put a full cup of salt in? - What if I used cheese instead of chocolate? - It says to leave the cake in the oven for What if we only left it for ten minutes? What if we left it all day? What if we put it in the freezer instead? - <p>Whilst discussing these questions you can introduce new vocabulary based on the level of understanding of your cohort. You might want to introduce language which relies on the children looking Back and working with what they know – possible/probable/definite, etc.</p> <p>In your final step ask the children to have a think and Picture what will happen if you did some of the above things. You are now going to Size the probabilities on a concept line.</p> <p>Concept Line: Draw a line on the floor or use a skipping rope. Put the labels Certain, likely, not likely and impossible along the line. Then decide where to place the following statements on the line.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I could use orange juice instead of milk and the cake would still taste nice • If I put the cake into the oven for 5 minutes instead of 30 minutes the mixture will still turn into cake • If I freeze the cake mixture instead of cooking it it will taste nice • If we follow the recipe correctly then everyone will like the cake



	Make sure everyone has had a chance to speak. Then bake your cake and enjoy!!!
T hanks	Thank children who displayed the 4Cs... Caring – Good listening. Telling children they had a good idea. Critical – using their own experiences. Thinking about what they know. Creative – Thinking of new ways to look at things Collaborative – Building on someone else’s ideas – particularly another child’s ideas.
S kills and C oncepts	Thinking ahead, predicting, using what you know, sequencing, alternate realities, cause and effect, problem solving, foresight, possible, certain, likely, not likely, impossible probable, definite Thinking Moves touched upon.... Using, Ordering (sequencing), Inferring (cause and effect), Formulating (coming up with possible solutions to problems), thinking Ahead (foresight), Sizing, Varying and Picturing

With huge thanks to Roger Sutcliffe for his edit notes and ideas on how to incorporate additional Thinking Moves.

Concept Line Resources

I could use orange juice instead of milk and the cake would still taste nice
If I put the cake into the oven for 5 minutes instead of 30 minutes the mixture will still turn into cake
If I freeze the cake mixture instead of cooking it it will taste nice
If we follow the recipe correctly then everyone will like the cake

Certain	Likely
Not Likely	Impossible