

A MAPLE LEAF WONDER by CLARE PRICE

Suzie is a keen TV Chef watcher. She has decided to make her own recipes while her mother is out. Her mother is very house-proud so Suzie is anxious not to ruin the kitchen.

SUZIE.

Right, now where to start. *(Searches the cupboards)*

Ah - sugar, flour, eggs...

(Checks)

Oh well, four will have to do ... *(Selects ingredients)*

Bread, one can of peaches, nutmeg ... Now we need a bowl and a baking tray, not forgetting the apron. *(She puts apron on and is immediately transformed into a TV Chef)*

Hello viewers. I've brought all these ingredients to show you how to make a

(Pauses to think of a name) ... Maple-Leaf Wonder. Firstly you take a handful of sugar and flour. Place them in the bowl and add four eggs. *(Finding it difficult to get a handful of flour she pours it into the bowl)*

I've watched my mother doing this. *(There is a cloud of flour which makes her cough)* Break the eggs into the mixture. *(Does so)* And mix using your finger tips. *(Mixing slowly)*

It does tend to stick a bit but you can always lick it off. Now add the peaches. Oh, I need a can opener and my hands are a bit messy.

(Gets mixture all over worktop and can opener which won't grip the can)

Now with your hands mix in the peaches. It's a bit sloppy but remember, this is fun, fun, *(Grimaces while mixing)* fun.

Now for the nutmeg. *(She considers and pours a little, then she pours all the nutmeg into the bowl)* We mustn't forget the bread, which of course I would have prepared earlier.

(With messy hands places the sliced bread round the baking tray) And this should have been greased. *(Getting flustered)*

Oh well, forget the greasing - and pour on... or lump on the peach mixture.

(Does so) There. *(Relieved)*

And bake it in a pre-heated oven, which I forgot to turn on, for 20 minutes.

So, let's make that 30 minutes. *(Moves the dial on the cooker. She suddenly hears something just as she's putting the mixture in the oven. She throws off her apron, uses it to wipe the work-top and her hands and turns her back to the oven door as if to hide it. She calls)*

Mum! Is that you? ... You're early. I've got a surprise for you.

(Licking her fingers)... I'll tidy the kitchen later ...

No, It's not too bad. *(Looks around the kitchen)*

Really.