Broccoli-Cheese Potato Chowder

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Yield: About 12 cups

Ingredients:

1/4 cup butter
1 cup finely chopped red bell pepper
1/2 cup chopped onion
3 Poblano peppers or 2 jalapeno peppers, seeded and finely chopped

2 garlic cloves, minced

5 medium sized potatoes, peeled and chopped

½ tsp. ground cumin

½ tsp. salt (can be omitted)

4 chicken bullion cubes

4 cups boiling water or 32 oz. chicken broth

1/3 cup all purpose flour

2 ½ cups milk

2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Head of broccoli

Preparation:

- 1. Melt butter in large pot over medium heat; add peppers, onion and garlic and sauté 4 to 5 minutes or until tender. Add potatoes, cumin and salt. Melt bullion cubes in boiling water (or use premade chicken broth) and gradually add to the pot. Bring potato mixture to a boil; cover, reduce heat to low and simmer 15-20 minutes until potatoes are tender.
- 2. While potatoes are cooking, chop broccoli into florets. Place florets and small amount of water in microwave safe bowl and microwave on high 4 or 5 minutes until tender. Set aside.
- 3. Whisk together flour and milk. Stir into potato mixture and cook over medium heat, stirring constantly 5 minutes or until thickened. Reduce heat to low.
- 4. Add cheese, stirring until melted
- 5. Stir broccoli into potato mixture.
- 6. Using a potato masher, mash potatoes and broccoli until most are mashed. Ladle into bowls and top with crispy crumbled bacon if desired.

Adapted from Southern Living Queso-Broccoli Potato Chowder.

