

# **Choco-Date Bites**

## **Ingredients**

- <sup>↑</sup> ¼ cup (60 ml) water
- <sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup (160 ml or 100 g) dark chocolate (Fairtrade, if possible), coarsely chopped
- zest of 1 orange
- ½ cup (125 ml or 44 g) unsweetened shredded coconut
- ½ cup (125 ml or 45 g) quick cooking rolled oats

#### **COATING**

½ cup (60 ml or 22 g) unsweetened shredded coconut

#### **YOU WILL NEED**

- ★ bowl (medium)
- ★ chef's knives
- ★ cutting boards
- ★ fork
- ★ microplane or grater
- saucepan (small)
- \* set of measuring cups
- ★ wooden spoon

### **Preparation**

- 1 Place dates and water in a small saucepan and bring to a boil over high heat.
- 2 Reduce heat to medium-low and simmer until water has evaporated. Remove from heat.
- 3 Mash dates with a fork to purée.
- 4 Add chocolate and stir until melted (there may be a few small pieces of chocolate left).
- **5** Add orange zest and juice, coconut and oat flakes and mix well.
- 6 Form 12 to 15 small balls with hands.

#### **COATING**

- **7 Optional:** Grill coconut in a skillet over medium heat for a few minutes or until golden brown.
- 8 Place coconut in a medium bowl.
- 9 Roll date balls in coconut, pressing lightly to coat well.



**CHEF'S TIP:** Don't feel like shaping these bites into balls? Just flatten the mixture on a baking sheet, sprinkle with coconut and cut into squares!

**DIETITIAN'S TIP**: This recipe is comparable to many energy ball recipes you can find on the web. In fact, all that is missing is a protein food to sustain you longer! In most cases, seeds, nuts or peanut, almond, nut or seed butter is added!