Slow Cooker Creamy Pasta with Chicken and Broccoli

- Prep 20 min
- Total1 hr 50 min
- Servings 8
- 12 oz uncooked chicken tenders (not breaded), cut into bite-size pieces
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/4 teaspoon coarse ground pepper
- 2 cups ProgressoTM reduced sodium chicken broth (from 32-oz carton)
- 1 can (12 oz) low-fat 2% evaporated milk
- 1 tablespoon butter
- 1 tablespoon Gold MedalTM all-purpose flour
- 2 oz 1/3-less-fat cream cheese (Neufchâtel)
- 1/2 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1/4 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes
- 12 oz uncooked penne pasta
- 1/2 cup chopped drained roasted red bell peppers (from a jar)
- 1 bag (12 oz) frozen broccoli florets
- Up to 1/4 cup additional heated chicken broth, if needed
- 1/4 cup shredded Parmesan cheese
- 1. Spray 3 1/2- to 4-quart slow cooker with cooking spray. Place chicken, salt and pepper in slow cooker; toss to thoroughly combine.
- 2. In 4-cup microwavable measuring cup, microwave 2 cups broth and the milk uncovered on High 4 to 5 minutes or until hot but not boiling. Meanwhile, in 4-quart saucepan, melt butter over medium heat.
- 3. Sprinkle flour over melted butter. Beat with whisk. Cook 1 to 2 minutes or until mixture turns light brown. Slowly beat in hot chicken broth mixture with whisk until smooth and combined. Heat to boiling over medium heat, stirring constantly.
- 4. Continue to cook and stir 1 minute. Remove from heat; stir in cream cheese, 1/2 cup Parmesan cheese and the crushed red pepper until cheese is melted.
- 5. Add uncooked pasta, roasted peppers and cheese mixture to chicken in slow cooker; stir to combine. Cover; cook on High heat setting 1 1/2 hours or until pasta is tender and chicken is cooked through. Just before serving, microwave broccoli as directed on bag; stir into mixture. Add additional heated broth to desired creaminess. Serve immediately topped with 1/4 cup Parmesan cheese.

