When you hear the SNAP! -

The shutter opens to let in light for 1/100 of 1 second. Paper behind the shutter is exposed to light through a small opening called the aperture and is filtered through a glass lens.

The flash goes off to illuminate the inside of the photobooth. This makes it possible for the camera to take a sharp picture. The more natural or artificial light present during a photo, the better the image will develop.

Light rays bounce off your face, clothes and hair and go back through the aperture. The light rays react with special photo paper that is fed through the machine. This paper contains chemicals that are sensitive to light, and will change color when exposed.

Inside the booth, chemicals develop the exposed paper into a strip. First, the strip is dunked in chemicals that begin the developing process. Then it takes a bath in other chemicals to neutralize and stop the process. If your strip is wet, don't worry!

For a video that further illustrates the inner workings of the photobooth, visit the links below:

http://goo.gl/vWsQW
http://www.massillonmuseum.org

Copyright 2013 © Massillon Museum