Hi everyone, today's lesson is on animal anatomy. You will need:
• your notebook or paper
• a pencil
• rubber
• sharpener just in case.

We're visiting the Natural History Museum and it's famous Wildlife Photographer of the year exhibit digitally. We are going to work this antelope from the young awards as inspiration reference today

(https://www.nhm.ac.uk/visit/wpy/gallery/2019/images/11-14-years-old/5426/the-aquabatic-antelope.html).

1. Start by observing the animal's structure and pose. Ask yourself if I had X-rays and could see beneath the skin, what shapes are the muscles and the bones underneath?
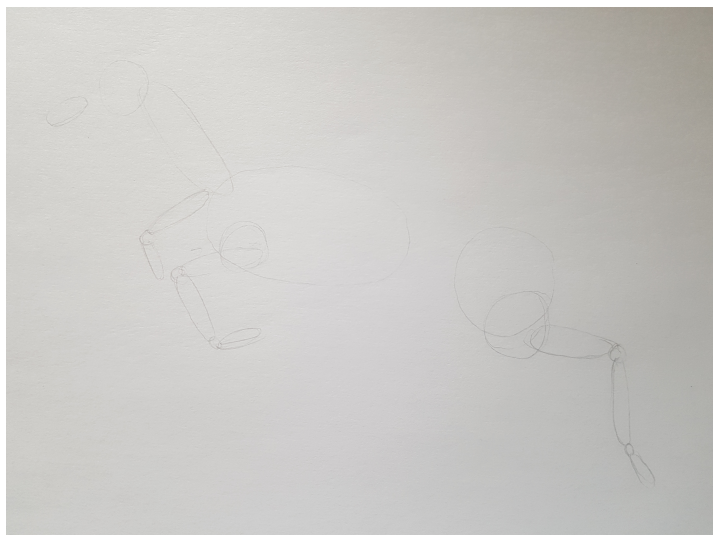
I always like to start with the body. We are going to use our lightest, gentlest lines to create structure which we can then rub away lightly and connect. Draw ovals for the torso and hips first, followed by the neck and head, finally the limbs and smaller detail like eyes.

2. After you have your ovals, you can start connecting them with a slightly darker line. Rub away unnecessary lines as you go, but leave the ones that help define muscles and intersections.
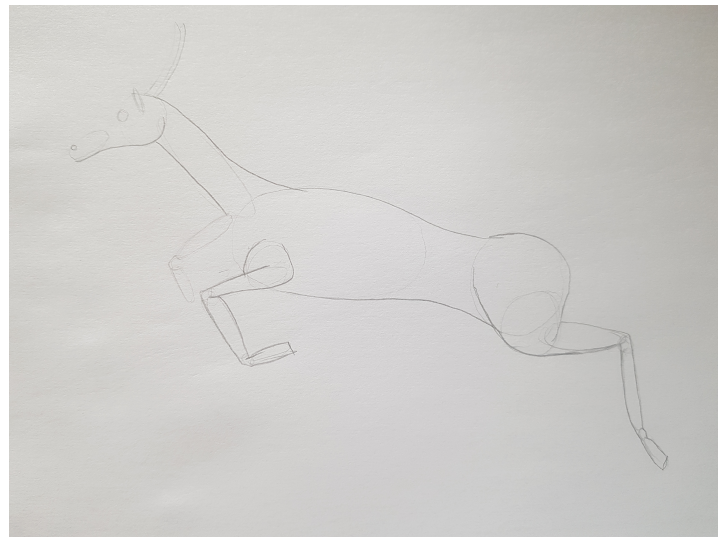
3. Now we have structure, we can move on to texture and all the smaller detail. Remember to keep looking back at your reference image as often as you can! With a dark line and fair bit of pressure we are going to mark out the darker parts and details of the legs, tail, face and antlers.

We now move back to a medium pressure line and start creating some of the darker fur and texture of the shadows. Take as much time as you need on this and go slowly.

Remember to share your work in progress or finished, if on social media use #artstars to tag your work and see other's work too.

Explore the rest of the exhibit, and pick another animal photograph to try the oval technique on your own for homework. Tip: click on lightbox in the exhibit and you'll be able to flick through all the photos. You can also explore the rest of the museum for more information on your animal, its structure and habitat.