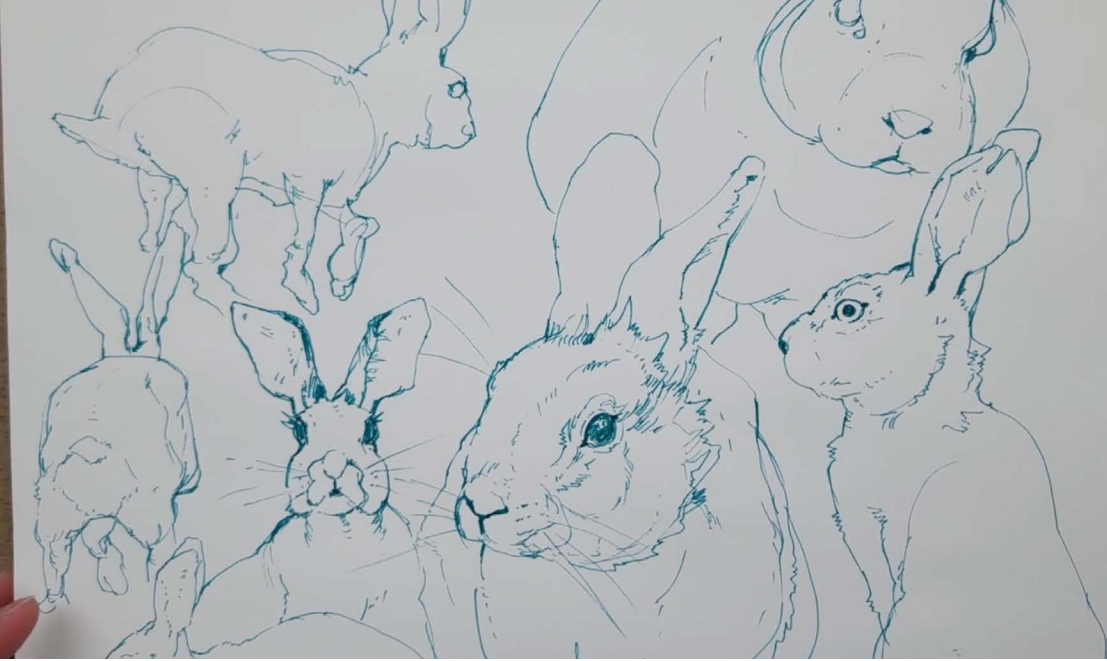




Strathmore ONLINE WORKSHOP SERIES

SKETCHING: THE FOUNDATIONAL ARTISTIC SKILL with Jordan Rhodes

LESSON 4: RANDOM IDEA GENERATORS TO GET OUT OF YOUR COMFORT ZONE



SUPPLIES:



Strathmore 400 Series
Recycled Sketch Pad
11x14, 60lb / 89gsm

Lyra

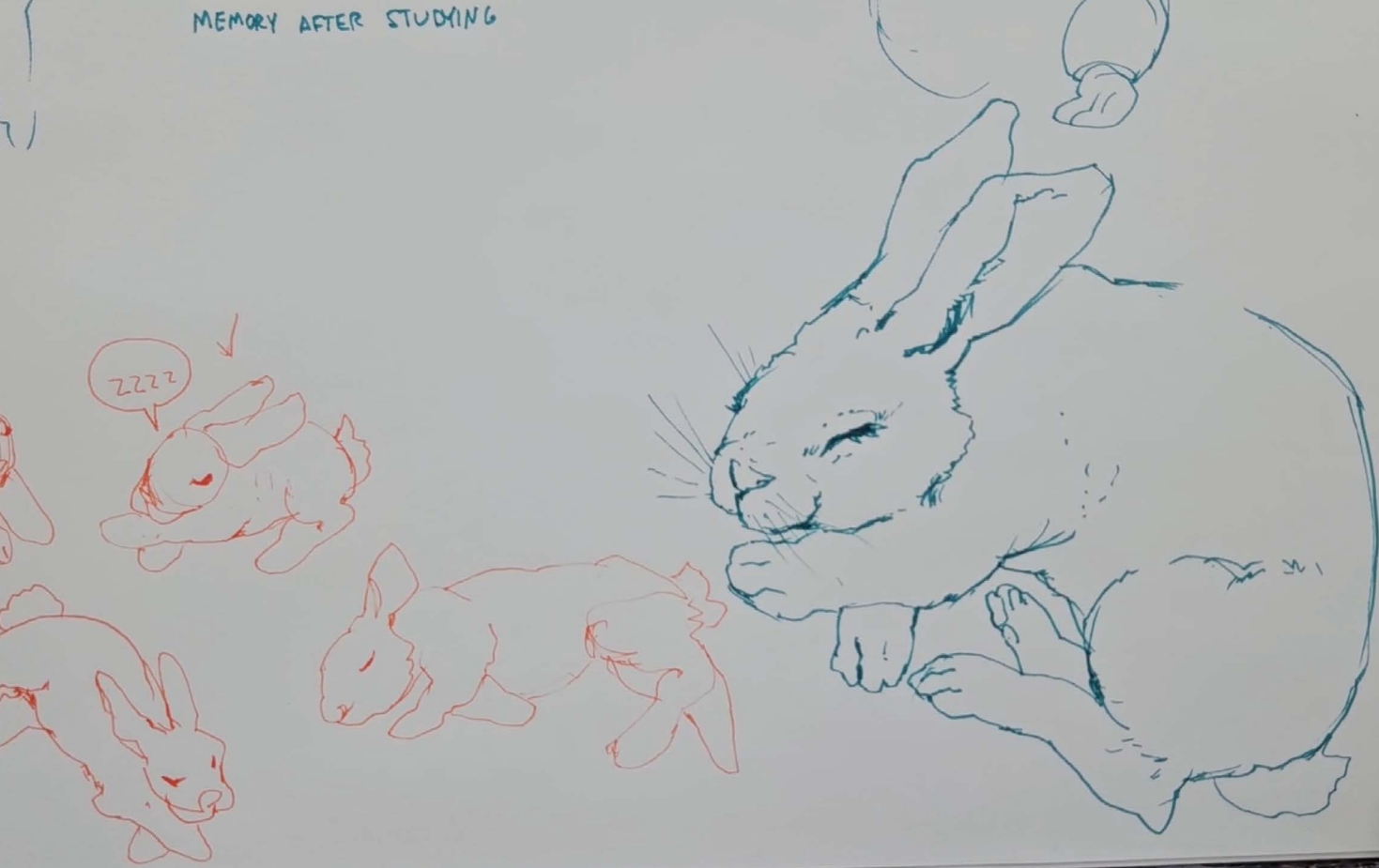


Lyra Graduate Fineliners



Lyra Aquabrush Duo, Viridian

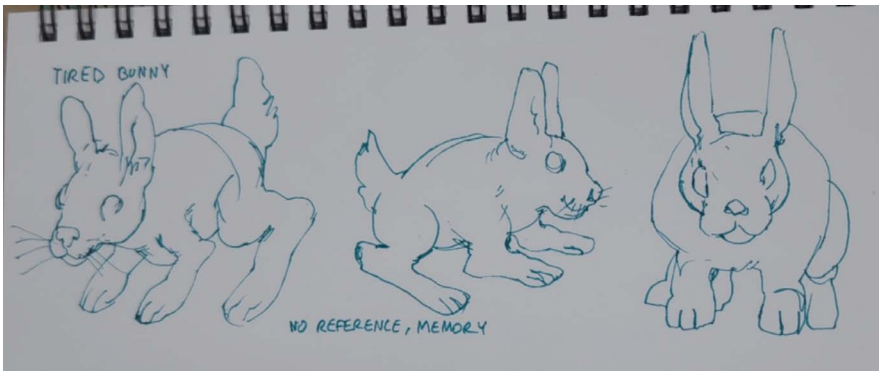
MEMORY AFTER STUDYING



Notes from Jordan

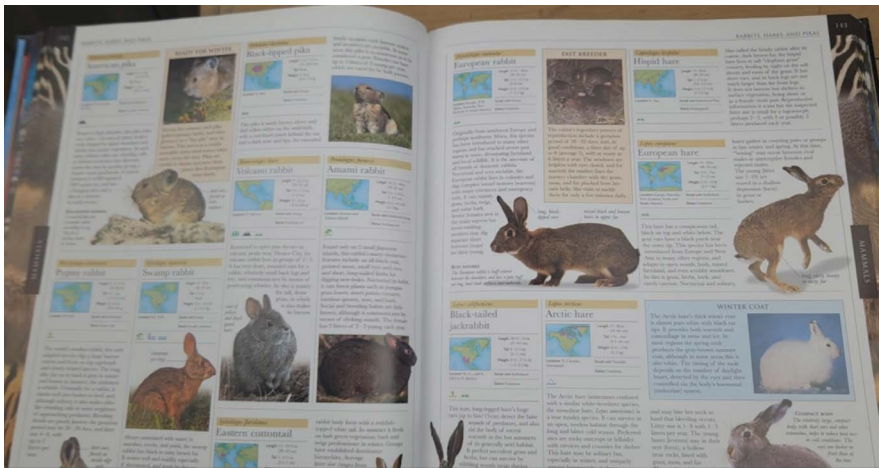
Sometimes it is hard to come up with an idea of what to draw. I can get stagnant sometimes opting to draw comfort zone subjects and just drawing what I know I am good at already. But it can be a fun challenge to try something new. If you look up some art prompts and idea generators you can get random ideas of things to draw that you might not have thought of.

Generate a random prompt using artideasgenerator.com or any other similar text prompt. My prompt was "a tired bunny", which would be a challenge because I have never drawn bunnies before. Use this as a chance to study a new subject matter.



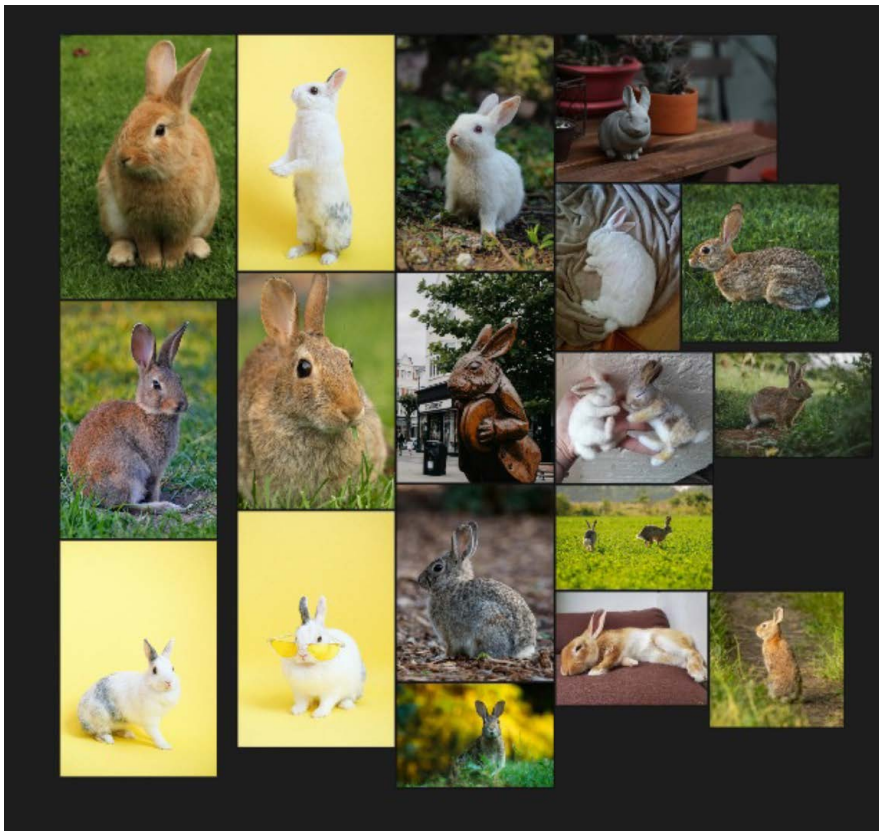
TEST YOUR MEMORY/ IMAGINATION

Try to draw the prompt without looking at any reference first just to see where you stand. My bunnies from imagination look nothing like bunnies, but no worries!



LOOK UP REFERENCES

Feel free to check out any relevant books that you may have or at your local library as well as what you can find on the internet. This book is called "Animal" by Smithsonian Institution.



References that are royalty free can be found on [Pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com/). I searched for "Eastern cotton tail" "rabbit", and "bunny" to find these images. The image reference board app is called PureRef for desktop.



STUDY THE IMAGES

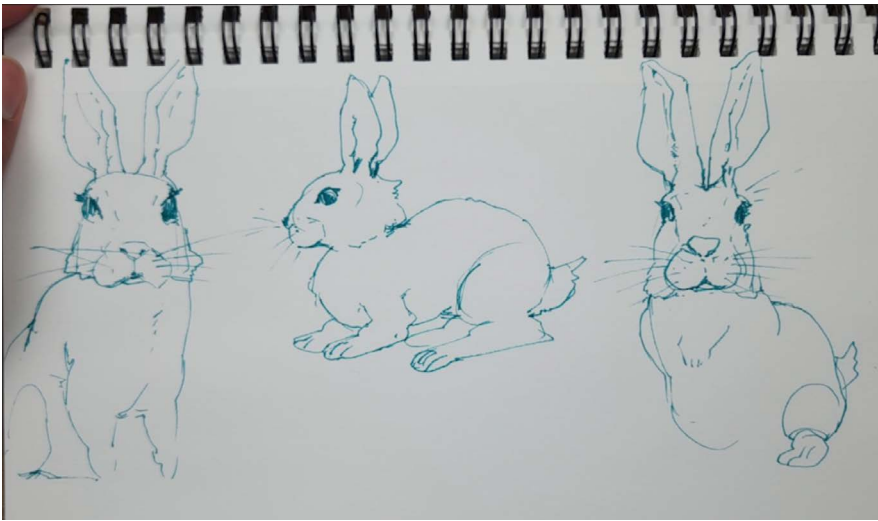
First just roughly draw what you are seeing as best as you can. Early attempts will not quite hit the mark especially if it is an unfamiliar subject matter. Draw the same reference multiple times as much as you need to develop an understanding and don't get stuck on a single drawing. My motto is you can always just draw it again. Don't be afraid to be messy, nothing is precious in a sketchbook.



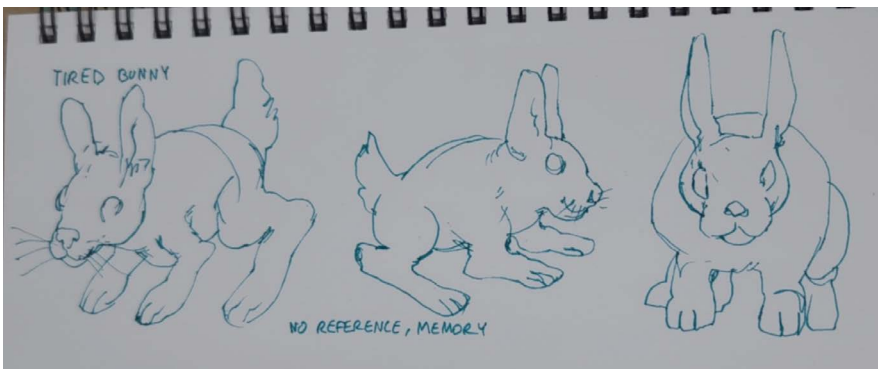
Drawing for understanding in your studies try to break down the image using contour lines to see if you can understand what the form is doing.



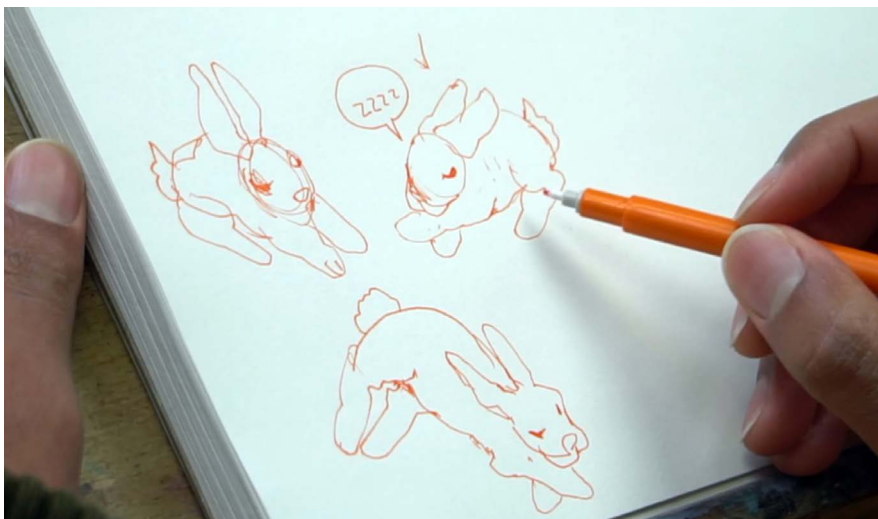
Line confidence and improvement can will come with practice.



Retest your memory by drawing again without reference to see how much information from studying remained in your head.



Already much better compared to the first ones

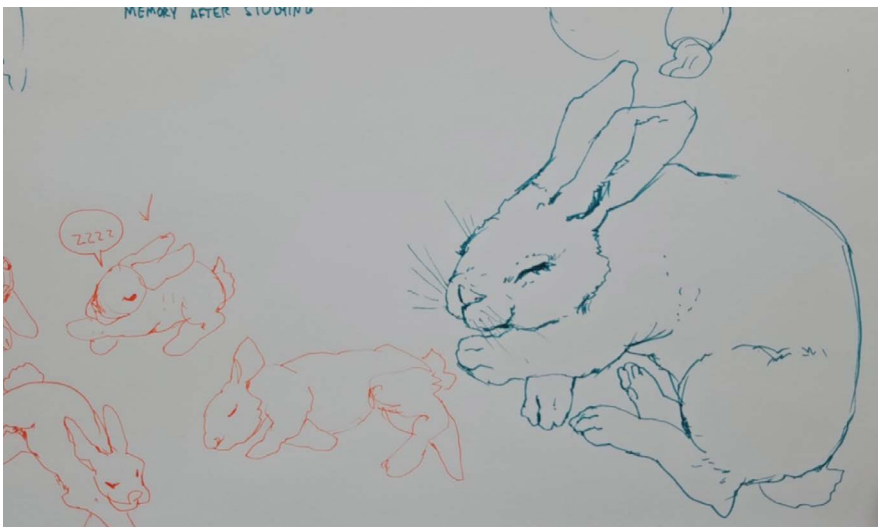


THUMBNAILING

The original prompt was a tired bunny, so thumbnails can be used to develop some ideas of what a tired bunny might look like. You could just skip to looking for references of tired bunnies, but it can also be good practice to see what you can come up with first, then look for reference to fill in the gaps.



Make an additional thumbnail using a reference to see what they actually look like sleeping.



Final drawing using what we learned and thumbnails. You can always draw to further explore and push it, that is what the sketchbook is all about once the fear of messing up is removed!