Compare and Contrast

Use the Venn Diagram that follows to list how these deer-like creatures are different and the same.
Thorington’s racing Pronghorns (*Antilocapra americana*) are often mistakenly referred to as the American or Prairie Antelope because of their resemblance to early Afro-Eurasian species. Lewis and Clark misidentified the animal during their early nineteenth-century expedition across North America. They nonetheless aptly visualized the power of the animals’ movement, as depicted in Thorington’s print: “Of all the animals we have seen the Antelope seems to possess the most wonderful fleetness. Shy and timorous they generally repose only on the ridges, which command a view of all the approaches of an enemy ... When they first see the hunters they run with great velocity.” *(Diary entry from Lewis and Clark)*
Bamana mythology recounts how the heroic Chi Wara, a half-antelope and half-human figure taught agriculture to man. Pairs of male and female Chi Wara headpieces are worn by young farmers in a dance that takes place in the fields. Male farmers pierce the earth with their sowing sticks to make it fertile for the growing season while a chorus of women follows, singing praises to the ideal farmer.

This headpiece represents a male antelope, but also has the body of an aardvark, whose habit of burrowing into the earth mimics a farmer sowing the fields. The zigzag path of the mane represents the sun’s rays and the horns symbolize a stalk of millet, a staple of the Bamana diet. The headpiece was originally attached to a basket-shaped hat which had long raffia fringe cascading around the wearer, symbolizing water flowing down to the earth.
The female Chi Wara always has a baby on its back! Notice the raffia hanging from the head piece goes over a pad on the dancer’s back to give him the shape of an antelope.

To watch a video of the ceremony click the link below

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6LYIdhPbWBw
Antelope, Deer and Pronghorn Facts

Despite similar appearances, deer and antelope belong to two different scientific families.

While both are members of the order *Artiodactyla*, which is composed of even-toed hoofed animals, antelope belong to the *Bovidae* family, which includes 135 species of miscellaneous cattle, goats and antelope. Antelopes have horns, like cattle, which they keep. (91 species including springbok, gazelle, oryx, waterbuck, the grey rhebok, and the impala)

Deer belong to a family known as *Cervidae*, which is composed solely of deer species. Male deer have branched antlers which they shed each year. (62 species including white-tailed deer, mule deer, elk, moose, red deer, reindeer (caribou), fallow deer, roe deer and chital)
Antelope are native to Africa and Eurasia.
The two main groups of deer are the *Cervinae*, including the muntjac, the elk (wapiti), the red deer, the fallow deer, and the chital; and the *Capreolinae*, including the reindeer (caribou), the roe deer, the mule deer, and the moose. Female reindeer, and male deer of all species except the Chinese water deer, grow and shed new antlers each year.
The Pronghorn

The pronghorn is a unique North American mammal. Its Latin name, *Antilocapra americana*, means "American goat-antelope," but it is not a member of the goat or the antelope family, and it is not related to the antelopes found in Africa. The pronghorn is the only surviving member of the *Antilocapridae* family and it has been in North America for over a million years!

The pronghorn has horns, not antlers. Its horns are made of two parts: a bony core that is covered by a sheath made of a stiff hair-like material. It is the only animal that has branched horns and it is the only animal that sheds its horns each year. The outer sheath falls off every year in the fall and then grows back in the summer.

The pronghorn is the fastest animal in the Western Hemisphere. It can run at speeds of up to 60 miles per hour and it can run long distances at speeds of 30-40 miles per hour. It can make bounds of up to 20 feet when it is running. When the pronghorn runs, its mouth is open so it can breathe in extra oxygen.

Video of pronghorns running at full speed
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYoQnFFnr-0
Learn more about antelope, pronghorns and deer.
Ina Annett
*Title unknown (four deer in forest clearing)*, ca. 1940
Linoleum cut on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of John, Susan, and Johnny Watt, in memory of Sarah Katherine Watt, 2006.306

Margaret Evelyn Whittemore
*White-tailed Deer*, mid 20th century
Block print on paper
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, G. E. Johnson Art Acquisition Fund, 2006.302
In Pueblo culture, the deer represents grace and gratitude. Deer is gentle and has the ability to sacrifice for the greater good. He also represents agility and speed. The arrow is the heartline symbol, generally associated with pottery from Zuni Pueblo, and represents life. It has a spiritual connection to deer and going hunting for deer.

Lucy Lewis appears to be the first Acoma potter to produce heartline deer on Acoma pottery. She did this around 1950, at the encouragement of Gallup, New Mexico Indian art dealer Katie Noe. Lewis did not use it until gaining permission from Zuni to do so.
Grace Medicine Flower (Santa Clara Pueblo)
Carved redware jar, 1976
Earthenware
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Mel and Mary Cottom, 2012.202

Gloria (Goldenrod) Garcia (Santa Clara Pueblo)
Miniature black seed vessel, late 20th century
Earthenware
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Mel and Mary Cottom, 2012.214
In Navajo culture, hunters would sing to the deer - bjįįh. The traditional deer dance can be seen in Arizona and at some of the New Mexico Pueblos during the Lenten season. During the traditional song and dance, the hunter, as a blackbird would sing to ask the spirit of the deer to cooperate in the hunting expedition. Ethnomusicologist Natalie Curtis recorded the song and dance in 1907. You can learn more about Begay and this artwork by watching the Art Byte

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B5b3xKxgHa0&t=94s
**Herschel C. Logan**

*Title unknown* (H. E. Dimick and co.), mid 20th century

Ink on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, gift of Peggy L. Sondergard & Samuel H. Logan, 2019.131

**John Steuart Curry**

*Two Deer Fleeing*, ca. 1940

Ink over graphite on paper

KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, bequest of Kathleen G. Curry, 2002.917
You have to look carefully to find the deer family!

Edward Moran
*Western Landscape*, 1866
Oil on canvas
KSU, Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art, 1963.6
Picture Books

- A Photographic Fantasy: Stranger in the Woods by Carl R. Sams II & Jean Stoick
- Lightfoot the Deer by Thornton W. Burgess
- The Big Snow by Berta and Elmer Hader
Bambi is a 1942 American animated drama film directed by David Hand (supervising a team of sequence directors), produced by Walt Disney and based on the 1923 book Bambi, a Life in the Woods by Austrian author and hunter Felix Salten.[4][5] The film was released by RKO Radio Pictures on August 13, 1942, and is the fifth Disney animated feature film.
The Yearling is a novel by Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings published in March 1938. It was the main selection of the Book of the Month Club in April 1938. It was the best-selling novel in America in 1938 and the seventh-best in 1939. It sold over 250,000 copies in 1938. It won the 1939 Pulitzer Prize and was produced as a film in 1946.
Art Projects

A Blue Deer? It’s more common than you might think. The Wixaritari (Huichol) Indians of the Western Sierra Madre Mountains of Mexico create their colorful art with concentric layers of cotton yard pressed into beeswax on a wooden board.

Huichol traditional religion consists of four principal deities: the trinity of Corn, Blue Deer and Peyote, and the Eagle, all descended from their Sun God, “Tawexikia.” Above, the Blue Deer featured in a yarn picture on beeswax mounted on wood, with the deer song in the shape of a snake, protecting Peyote and surrounded by Corn.

You can create your own yarn painting by using yarn in thick glue or Wikki Stix, yarn that is coated in wax.

Watch the video here and find the book on the Exploration Station at the Beach Museum of Art.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bxzyYvFRVg
Woodrow Wilson “Woody” Crumbo, (1912-1989, Creek/Potawatomi Nation) was born in Lexington, Oklahoma. He made colorful artwork in a traditional style, and created a number of blue deer.

Rite of Spring, ca. 1948
Screenprint on paper
Courtesy of Crumbo family

One Blue Deer
Tempera and airbrush on paper
Accession No: 02.315
Some additional ideas.
Begin with a 6.5” by 6.5” piece of brown construction paper. With a few quick folds your reindeer head will be formed! First, fold the paper in half to create a triangle. Next, fold up two points of the triangle to form the reindeer’s ears. Be sure to press down to create crisp folds.

https://www.redtedart.com/easy-origami-reindeer-for-preschool/